FBIS DAILY REPORT

# MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

## 24 FEBRUARY 1986

### Iran-Iraq War

Regarding naval action, Iraqi statements and communiques broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio claimed that the Iraqi Navy destroyed another Iranian supply ship 20 February, sunk an enemy "early warning" vessel 21 February, and destroyed two "very large maritime targets" near Khark Island 23 February. The communiques also mentioned Iraqi air attacks against the Ganaveh oil pipeline intersection 23 February and against Khark Island and a "maritime target" the previous day. In contrast, IRNA announced that Iranian troops "totally smashed" another Iraqi counterattack early 24 February and military communiques cited by the agency claimed that Iraq lost some 1,500 men killed or wounded in other unsuccessful attacks over the weekend.

In other developments, Iran warned in a statement broadcast by Tehran radio that it can and will repay the Baghdad regime for the latter's "black deed" in shooting down an Iranian passenger aircraft, stressing that "the continuation of these crimes will endanger air security throughout the world." On the chemical weapons issue, the Iranian prime minister denied Iraqi claims that Iran has used such weapons, asserting that Iran has not yet deployed chemical weapons though it is capable of doing so, according to IRNA. The agency also reported on the acting Iranian foreign minister's 22 February talks in Damascus with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, citing the latter's statement that Iran has no designs on Iraqi territory and that "the main problem" is Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, not the Iraqi nation and territory.

### Lebanon-Israel

IDF forces ended their search in southern Lebanon for two kidnapped IDF soldiers and returned to the security strip 22 February, Jerusalem radio reported. The IDF force withdrew after Israel "exhausted all feasible possibilities" of locating the soldiers in the search area, Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said in a subsequent interview with the radio. Rabin added that Israel will continue the search for the soldiers "through various groups." In related developments, the "Islamic Resistance Front" in Beirut announced that it had transferred the two kidnapped Israeli soldiers to "a secure place outside southern Lebanon," according to a Cairo radio report 21 February. AFP later reported that the newspaper of the pro-Iranian Hizballah Party published a photograph of the two captive Israelis in its 21 February edition with the caption: "The two Israeli prisoners before the execution of one of them."

In a later development, 5 people were killed and 12 injured when a bomb exploded in a car in Beirut 24 February, Voice of Lebanon radio reported.

### Israel-PLO-Jordan

In further Israeli reaction to King Husayn's 19 February speech, at a cabinet meeting 23 February, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres noted that Israel is currently seeking "clarifications" from the United States concerning King Husayn's remarks, IDF radio reported, and he also denied that the United States has informed Israel of any change in the U.S. position toward the PLO.

Meanwhile, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat expressed "surprise" over Husayn's speech in a statement to London's *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*, but he added that he is ready to resume dialogue and that all possibilities are "wide open." PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir stated in a press interview cited by KUNA that 'Arafat will attend the forthcoming CPSU congress, though London's *AL-MAJALLAH* reported that the PLO delegation will be headed by Faruq Qaddumi, chief of the PLO's Political Department.

### OPEC Affairs

Iran announced its willingness to completely halt oil exports in order to "counteract the plot to reduce oil prices," Tehran radio reported, citing a statement by Iranian Foreign Ministry official Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam prior to his departure for Saudi Arabia. Sheykh ol-Eslam said he will represent Iran, Libya, and Algeria on his visit and present to the Kingdom their joint stance on reducing oil production "to a point where the downward spiral of oil prices will be stemmed." He added that Iran will suggest at the next OPEC meeting that all OPEC members temporarily suspend their oil exports.

### Libya-Chad

At a news conference in Ndjamena, Chadian officials presented two prisoners said to be Libyan soldiers captured in fighting at Oum Chalouba 14 February, AFP reported 21 February. The captured Libyans were "technical advisers" working with GUNT troops, the report added. Five other Libyans were killed in clashes in northern Chad 11-14 February, the Chadian information minister told AFP. According to a later AFP report, a Chadian envoy met with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak in Cairo to request additional Egyptian military support for the battle against rebels in northern Chad.

In an interview with the Greek paper *KIRIAKATIKI ELEVTHEROTIPIA*, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi said that France had violated the 1984 Franco-Libyan agreement on Chad by bombing a "civilian airport" in northern Chad, but he added that "despite all this, we will not intervene." Col al-Qadhdhafi also accused the United States and France of working together to "take over" Chad and establish a U.S. base from which the United States could "control the whole African Continent." In a separate development, Tripoli radio announced that the Libyan General People's Congress will meet in Banghazi 25 February.

### PDRY

Former leader 'Ali Nasir Muhammad is not in the PDRY, Presidium Secretary 'Ali Ahmad al-Sallami told the UAE's *AL-KHALIJ*. *Al-Sallami's remark followed an 'Ali Nasir* Muhammad interview with Kuwait's *AL-SIYASAH* which the paper said was held at Muhammad's base 180 km from Aden in the PDRY.

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## 'Arafat To Attend, Address CPSU Congress

*LD220946 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0905 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 22 Feb (KUNA) — Deputy Commander in Chief of the Palestine Revolution Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad — disclosed in an interview published here today that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat is due in Msocow within the next 24 hours to attend the CPSU Congress which opens there on Tuesday [25 Feb].

In his interview, published in the Abu Dhabi paper *AL-ITTIHAD*,Abu Jihad said that a high-ranking Palestinian delegation will accompany 'Arafat on his visit to Moscow to attend the 27th CPSU Congress. He said the visit is in response to an official invitation from the CPSU Central Committee.

The paper cites reports circulating in diplomatic circles in Moscow as saying that 'Arafat will address the congress to explain the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement and the situation in the Palestine arena in addiiton to Syrian-Jordanian relations and the need for new efforts to restore the unity of the Palestine resistance detachments and to heal the rift within the PLO.

The paper said that the Fatah movement is holding contacts with various detachments of the Palestinian revolution including those belonging to the Palestine Salvation Front to discuss the possible summoning of an emergency meeting of the Palestine National Council [PNC] to discuss Palestinian unity and the new developments following Jordan's decision to stop coordination with the PLO.

Quoting what it describes as responsible Palestinian sources, the paper said that the PLO has asked the USSR and a number of Arab countries, including two Gulf countries, to exert efforts to pave the way for the holding of a PNC meeting to be devoted to the question of national unity. The sources said that the PLO is holding contacts with Algeria in connection with hosting the council.

## USSR Reportedly Behind PLO's Hardline Stand

*GF232022 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic*
*22 Feb 86 p 23*

[Text] *AL-QABAS* has learned from well-informed Arab sources that the USSR has played a secret and important role in encouraging the PLO leadership to adopt a hardline stand and reject the U.S. conditions to include the PLO in the peace negotiations. The sources said that the Palestinian leadership and Moscow have reached a kind of secret understanding on a number of matters concerning the peace process, the international conference, and the roles of the PLO and the USSR in this process.

The sources stated that the secret understanding came as a result of Soviet-Palestinian contacts at various levels. Some of these contacts were conducted by a number of Palestinian leaders in Moscow and some were made during consultations between Yasir 'Arafat and a number of USSR ambassadors and diplomats in Amman and other Arab capitals.

The sources disclosed to *AL-QABAS* that this secret understanding is not written but includes the following main points:

1. The Palestinian leadership undertakes to inform Soviet officials of every step or development concerning the Palestinian-Jordanian negotiations or direct and indirect Palestinian-U.S. contacts which aim to activate the peace process. This commitment is in response to a Soviet request as Moscow has shown resentment over Yasir 'Arafat because he did not inform Moscow of the actual content of the provisions of the Amman before signing it in February 1985. Rather, he sent to Moscow another text on which many amendments were made.

2. The PLO undertakes not to accept UN Resolutions 242 and 338 unless it obtains three main concessions, which are:

a. A formal, written, and open U.S. recognition of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination that it will include this issue in negotiations.

b. The need for the PLO to participate in any peace negotiations as part of a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation so that the PLO will represent the Palestinian people.

c. The need for negotiations to be conducted within the framework of an intenrational conference which must have a real and actual role, not a mere ceremonial role as Washington and Tel Aviv want.

3. Based on this form, the PLO agrees for the first time that the proposed international conference should be held under U.S.-Soviet supervision, the two superpowers will have a fundamental role, and that the other three UN Security Council permanent member countries — France, Britain, and the PRC — participate in the conference as observers. This is the Soviet view regarding the convocation of the international conference. The Soviets do not want the five permanent member countries to share the same role. They want the main role to be played by the United States and the USSR and the other members to participate as observers.

The PLO accepted this Soviet view and pledged to hold to it through all stages of negotiations and contacts.

4. In return, the Soviet side undertakes to support the PLO in any peace negotiations and to seek the support of the concerned Arab and international parties for the PLO role and to include it in the peace conference.

5. The Soviets also undertake to exert all efforts to achieve reconciliation between Syria and the PLO leadership and to unite Palestinian factions and organizations. In this context, *AL-QABAS* has learned that the meeting between President Hafiz al-Asad and Faruq Qaddumi, alias Aby al-Luft, head of the PLO Political Department, late last year — and which the Syrian president disclosed in his interview by the French paper *LIBERATION* — was in response to a Soviet request.

The informed Arab sources add that this Palestinian-Soviet understanding did not restrict the freedom of maneuverability of the PLO leadership, as this leadership continued its talks with

Egypt in order to reach an acceptable formula to help convene an international conference and to activate peace negotiations. These Palestinian moves are currently being conducted in the framework of consultations with Moscow and not in seclusion from them.

*AL-QABAS* has learned that Jordanian and U.S. officials believe that the Soviet pressure has played a fundamental role in hardening the Palestinian stand. But informed Palestinian sources told *AL-QABAS* that coordination with Moscow was not the main cause for the PLO's rejection of the U.S. conditions. The main cause for the PLO decision was because what the Reagan administration offered was not convincing or sufficient to make the PLO abandon the last political card in its hands — the recognition of Resolutions 242 and 338 and the recognition of the existence of Israel within secure borders.

An informed U.S. source affirmed to *AL-QABAS* that Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near East and South Asian affairs, will not visit Jordan or the region until the reassessment of the situation by the U.S. Administration is complete. The source stated that the Reagan administration is currently holding contacts with the various concerned parties especially Egypt, Jordan, and Israel, to know their stands on King Husayn's decision to stop political coordination and joint action with the PLO leadership.

## USSR Invites Palestinians To Discuss Unity

*GF231311 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic*
*23 Feb 86 p 3*

[Text] Damascus — The Soviet Union has invited a number of Palestinians to visit Moscow in a move aimed at achieving Palestinian national unity.

These peoples include Faruq Qaddumi, director of the PLO Political Department; Yasir 'abd Rabbuh from the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine; Abu 'ali Mustafa from the PFLP; and Khalid al-Fahum, former chairman of the PNC, as an independent representative who declined the invitation for health reasons. However, Moscow has requested a substitute for him, 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar; and it is not yet clear whether he will attend. These people are currently conducting consultations among the fronts they represent to discuss the possibilities of reconciliation.

## 'Arafat Castigated for Leadership 'Failure'

*JN232150 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1530 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Palestine broadcast: From "On the Events" program]

[Text] Brothers on the road to revolution and liberation, the Popular War Liberation Vanguards-Al-Sa'iqah forces have issued a statement on the current state of affairs in the Palestinian arena. The statement says:

Wagering on U.S. solutions and Reagan's promises, the 'Arafatist command has turned its back on armed struggle; dispersed all the Palestinian revolution forces it could disperse; exposed the PLO, the Palestinian revolution, and the popular organizations to successive divisions and fragmentations; and done its best to demonstrate its skill in offering one concession after another to become a partner acceptable to the United States in a settlement which would take place on the basis of the Camp David accords and Reagan's plan. By this, the 'Arafatist command has exposed our Palestinian and Arab arenas to a series of differences and fragmentations we could have avoided had this command abided by the resolutions of the legitimate PNC sessions expressing Palestinian national consensus and by the Arab summit resolutions expressing pan-Arab consensus, and had it respected the principle of collective leadership and collective action as the basis for democratic relations in our Palestinian arena.

The successive concessions by the 'Arafatist command, beginning with the reliquishment of armed struggle and ending with its supplication to the U.S. Administration to allow it to sit at the same table, inevitably led to the deadend which this command reached when it found itself facing an explicit U.S. demand dictating the cancellation of the PLO role and the complete elimination of the recognition of our Palestinian people's right to repatriation and self-determination on their national soil.

The clear fact that has been established throughout all our national experience, and whose veracity has also been established through the failure of 'Arafat's capitulatory trend, is that the continuation and escalation of armed struggle are the only course that can achieve practical results in the confrontation of our enemy, whether on the political or military level. From this premise, our organization would like to reaffirm the following basic facts:

1. To hold the 'Arafatist command fully responsible for the fragmentation and setbacks that have befallen the PLO in the past stage; to call on this command to step down and give an opportunity to Palestinian national factions and figures to reestablish National Salvation [PNSF] program, which remains committed to the continuation of armed struggle and its escalation.

2. To urge all Palestinian revolution factions to escalate resistance in occupied Palestine and supply it with all the requisites securing its continuation and development to attain our basic objective of liberating the land and regaining rights.

3. To reject any attempt to find surrogate agent leaders to participate in the settlement on the basis of Resolution 242; to fiercely confront this attempt, from whatever source it may come.

4. To reaffirm the unity of militant Palestinian action and emphasize its complementarity in and outside the occupied territory; to condemn all attemtps to fragment the Palestinian people, break up their cause, and squander their legitimate rights to repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of the independent state on Palestinian soils.

5. To invite all national and progressive forces in the Palestinian arena to rally round the national program of the PNSF for regaining PLO unity on the basis of abidance by its sound

national and militant course based on the Palestinian National Charter and hostility to Zionism, imperialism, and reactionaries.

Our organization will do its best to enhance these principles, confront the perils that engulf our national struggle, and foil the liquidatory U.S. schemes.

## 'Arafat Surprised by Husayn Announcement on PLO

*LD231003 Kuwait KUNA in English 0807 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] Kuwait, Feb 23 (KUNA) — PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat said the Palestinian people inside the occupied territories support the PLO in its stance toward King Husayn's decision to halt political coordination with the PLO.

In an interview with daily *AL ANBA'*, published here Sunday [23 Feb], 'Arafat said King Husayn's address, which included his announcement of stopping coordination with the PLO concerning the Middle East settlement, was a surprise to him.

'Arafat who was interviewed in a [word indistinct] added that the main issue which he believes has a priority at the present time is the current escalation of the Iraq-Iran war, following the recent Iranian offensive on Iraq.

He said that he submitted three formulas to King Husayn of Jordan before his departure from Amman.

One of these formulas, 'Arafat added, was "the PLO's readiness to attend the international conference, whcih groups permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and the conflicting parties in the region to achieve a just, permanent and comprehensive solution to the Middle East and the Palestinian cause, based on achieving the national and legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and on all U.N. resolutions concerning the Palestinian cause, including Resolution 242 and 338."

The PLO chairman elaborated that the U.S. insisted that the PLO recognize the 242 "without any ambiguity" and announce a halt of its military operations on the start of the international conference.

## KUWAIT

### Iraqi Oil Minister Conveys Message to Amir

*LD221057 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1000 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] His highness the amir this morning received the oil minister of the fraternal Iraq who delivered a message to his highness from his brother the Iraqi president, Saddam Husayn.

The meeting was attended by the Kuwaiti minister of oil and industry, 'Ali Khalifa al-Athbi, and the Iraqi ambassador to Kuwait.

#### Departs Following Talks

*LD221757 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1635 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] Kuwait, 22 Feb (KUNA) — Qasim Ahmad Taqi al-Uraybi, Iraqi minister of oil, left for home this evening at the end of his brief visit during which he handed the Amir of Kuwait a message from his brother the Iraqi president, Saddam Husayn. He was seen off by Al-Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-'Adhbi the minister of oil and industry.

The minister told KUNA here today that the message which he handed to the Amir of Kuwait dealt with the bilateral cooperation between the two fraternal countries, particularly in the field of oil industry. He also said that the message also contained congratulations from President Saddam to his highness on the 25th anniversary of Kuwait's independence.

Al-Uraybi said that he has conducted talks with al-Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah on the points of view and views about the position of the current oil world market and the steps which OPEC could adopt to protect the common interest of its 13 member states.

He declined to make any statements or explanations about the steps which must be taken by the organization under the present bad conditions in the world oil market which is witnessing an acute deterioration in oil prices.

The Iraqi minister pointed out that he has also conducted talks with the secretary general of OAPEC, Dr 'Ali Ahmad 'Atiqah connected with the bilateral cooperation between the organization and Iraq in its capacity as a member. Al-Uraybi arrived in Kuwait at 0930 hours this morning.

### Algerian Foreign Minister Arrives For Visit

*LD221641 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1601 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 22 Feb (KUNA) — Member of the Political Bureau and foreign minister of the Republic of Algeria, Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, arrived in Kuwait this evening on a visit lasting until Monday. He was met on arrival by the minister of state for cabinet affairs, Rashid al-Rashid, and by the acting foreign under secretary, Faysal al-Mutawwa'.

#### Conveys Message to Amir

*LD231113 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1000 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] At 1100 today, his highness the amir received Dr Ahmed Talib Ibrahimi, member of the Politburo and minister for foreign affairs in the fraternal Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, who delivered a message from his brother President Chadli Bendjedid. The meeting was attended by Ambassador Faysal Salih al-Mutawwa', the acting Foreign Ministry under secretary, and by the Algerian ambassador to Kuwait.

#### Received by Foreign Minister

*LD231445 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1354 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] Kuwait, 23 Feb (KUNA) — The official talks between Kuwait and Algeria were held at midday today at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs under the chairmanship of Acting Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir and member of the Politburo and Foreign Minister of Algeria Ahmed Talib Ibrahimi who is visiting Kuwait at the official invitation of Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad.

The talks were attended on the Kuwaiti side by acting Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Faysal al-Salih al-Mutawwa'; Director of the Foreign Minister's Office Abdallah Sa'ud al-'Abd al-Razzaq; and a number of senior officials at the ministry; and on the Algerian side by Al-Hasnaoui Khaldi, ambassador to Kuwait; and a number of the delegation members accompanying Mr Ibrahimi.

In a statement to KUNA and *AL-SIYASAH* following the talks, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said the talks dealt with bilateral relations between the two fraternal countries in addition to the emerging events in the region, the most important of which are the developments in the Iraq-Iran war. Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad affirmed that Algeria "will continue its good efforts with a view to arriving at the best way to stop this destructive war and end the conflict between the two neighboring countries."

He expressed his hope that the Algerian efforts will achieve their objectives, and added that what Algeria is undertaking is not a mediation between Iraq and Iran... "but a continuation of the endeavors and efforts exerted by the fraternal country in the past to stop the war."

He said there are no new proposals in this regard. He expressed his hope that the recent developments will be "an incentive to create better circumstances to end the war." This afternoon, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad hosted a luncheon banquet in honor of Mr Ibrahimi and the accompanying delegation attended by the acting under secretary of the Foreign Ministry and senior officials, and the Algerian ambassador in Kuwait.

#### Departs for Bahrain

*LD241010 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0836 GMT 24 Feb 86*

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 24 Feb (KUNA) — Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Political Bureau and Algerian foreign minister, left the country at 1000 today for Bahrain after a visit which lasted 2 days.

In a statement to the Kuwaiti and Algerian news agencies on his departure, he expressed his pleasure at meeting the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, and said that he held discussions with the deputy prime minister and foreign minister, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, which focused on our Arab situation in the east and in the west. It also concentrated on the Iraq-Iran war and on the efforts to arrive at a peaceful solution to this war.

He added that attempts are being made to coordinate all efforts to arrive at the desired solution and to end the conflict between the two countries.

Regarding arrangements for a possible Islamic buffer force on the borders, [words indistinct] Mr Ibrahimi said that this topic was not discussed.

### PDRY Official Denies 'Ali Nasir Near Aden

*GF231321 Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic*
*23 Feb 86 p 17*

[Text] Kuwait — 'Ali Ahmad al-Sallami, secretary of the Presidium in the PDRY has denied that former Yemeni Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad is currently in the PDRY. Al-Sallami expressed wonder while answering a question by *AL-KHALIJ* on this matter circulated by Arab newspapers that the former chairman is currently 180 km from the capital, Aden. He said that this is not true and that his government is convinced he is outside Yemen.

While answering another question, Al-Sallami revealed that the new leadership of the ruling party in Aden intends to form legal committees to investigate the recent conspiracy in the PDRY in order to reveal the parties involved in it.

He also said that his government will reveal documents and evidence in the near future indicating the involvement of foreign parties in recent events in Aden. He did not elaborate.

Al-Sallami is currently visiting Kuwait as chairman of the Arab Parlimentary Union at the invitation by Ahmad al-Sa'dun, speaker of the Kuwaiti National Assembly.

## PDRY

### YSP Secretary Makes Statement, Departs for Moscow

*GF211936 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1900 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] Brother Salim Salih Muhammad, assistant secretary general and secretary of the YSP Central Committee, today left Aden for Moscow to join our party delegation led by Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, to attend the works of the 27th CPSU Congress. He was bade farewell at the airport by Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the YSP Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium; Dr Yasin Sa'id Nu'man, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of Ministers; and a number of officials at the Political Bureau, the Central Committee, and the Council of Ministers.

In a statement to ANA, the brother assistant secretary general said: It is a great opportunity for our party delegation led by Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid to participate in this political spectacle of the Soviet Communists and the entire international communist movement. He pointed out that it is also an opportunity for our delegation to meet the Soviet leaders and those of the communist parties, the international labor movement, and Arab and international liberation movements, in order to consolidate relations between the YSP and the CPSU and other communist parties which will participate in the 27th CPSU Congress.

He said: Our party delegation will explain the dimensions of the abortive 13 January coupist conspiracy.

Brother Muhammad was accompanied by Brother Muhammad Sa'id 'Abdallah Muhsin, member of the YSP Political Bureau and secretary of the YSP Central Committee; Sayf Sa'il Khalid, member of the Central Committee and first secretary of the party organization in Aden Governorate; and Colonel Haytham Qasim Tahir, member of the Central Committee, first deputy minister of defense, and chief of staff.

### PFLP Political Bureau Official, Delegation Arrive

*GF220620 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic*
*0330 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] A PFLP delegation led by 'Abd al-Rahim Malluh, member of the PFLP Political Bureau, arrived in Aden last night on a visit to our country expected to last several days.

In a statement to ANA, Malluh said: This visit is an expression of solidarity with the YSP and PDRY people in the hard plight they faced. During my visit I will acquaint myself with the background and reasons which led to this situation. He said he will hold talks on issues of mutual interest to both the PFLP and YSP and on issues of joint struggle. He added: We are confident that the PDRY people, led by the YSP, will quickly overcome their plight and the circumstances which confronted them.

He was received at Aden international airport by 'Ali Isma'il, YSP Central Committee deputy secretary.

#### Received by Al-'Attas

*GF232015 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1900 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] Brother Engineer Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the YSP Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, today received brother 'Abd al-Rahim Malluh, member of the PFLP Political Bureau.

During the meeting, Brother Al-'Attas briefed Brother 'Abd al-Rahim Malluh on the nature of the coupist conspiracy carried out by conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his adventurous clique and the dimensions of this conspiracy. They also reviewed the struggle relations between the YSP and the PFLP, the situation in the Arab and Palestinian arenas, the nature of the circumstances the Arab national liberation movement is passing through, and the importance of making efforts to bolster the movement's role so that it can confront the imperialist and Zionist challenges, which are designed mainly against the movement's bases and the progressive Arab regimes and forces.

Brother Al-'Attas reiterated our country's support for the struggle of the Arab Palestinian people and the unity of the Palestinian revolution ranks to confront the plots which are trying to harm their national unity and the legitimate rights of the Arab Palestinian people.

Brother Malluh affirmed the PFLP's stance next to the YSP so that it can overcome the effects of the conspiracy and can confront any conspiracy which is against the PDRY's policy and progress.

### Received by Foreign Minister

*GF231622 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] Brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the YSP Political Bureau and minister of foreign affairs, received at his office at noon today a PFLP delegation led by brother 'Abd al-Rahim Malluh, member of the PFLP Political Bureau. He briefed the delegation on the nature of the 13 January bloody plot led by plotter 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his clique, which was designed to eliminate the YSP and the revolutionary experience in our country. Views were exchanged during this meeting on this plot and the effects resulting from it and the efforts aimed at liquidating its consequences and effects in the various fields.

The delegation reiterated the PFLP position in support of the YSP and the PDRY Government in their efforts to overcome the effects of this plot. Brother Malluh expressed admiration for the enthusiasm shown by the party members, workers, and masses of the people to reconstruct what has been destroyed by this plot in various fields.

### Received by YSP Secretary

*GF231734 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] Brother Fadl Muhsin 'Abdallah, member of the YSP Political Bureau and secretary of the YSP Central Committee, received at his office this morning the PFLP delegation led by Brother 'Abd al-Rahim Malluh, member of the PFLP Political Bureau. He briefed the delegation on the backgrounds of the abortive 13 January bloody plot led by plotter 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his clique, the damage resulting from it, and the efforts being exerted by our people and party to surmount this damage. Brother Fadl Muhsin lauded the struggle relations between the YSP and the PFLP and the struggle relationship linking the Yemeni and Palestinian revolutions.

Brother Malluh conveyed the greetings of the PFLP leadership and bases to the YSP leadership and bases. He reiterated the PFLP position in support of our party and revolution in these difficult circumstances which resulted from the plot. The delegation expressed its confidence that the YSP is capable of surmounting this plot.

### Foreign Minister Receives Lebanese Party Officials

*GF240710 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Excerpt] Brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the YSP Political Bureau and foreign minister, has praised the solidarity position adopted by the Lebanese Communist Action Organization toward our revolution and party. He reiterated the YSP's keenness to reinforce and develop relations with the Lebanese Communist Action Organization.

This took place during his meeting today with Brothers Fawwaz Tarabulsi, the assistant secretary general of the Lebanese Communist Action Organization, and Nasir al-As'ad, member of the organization's Political Bureau.

They reviewed a number of issues pertaining to the events which the PDRY experienced as a result of the abortive coupist plot that was led by conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his adventurous clique.

They also discussed cooperation relations between the YSP and the Communist Action Organization in addition to the Arab situation in general and the Palestinian situation in particular

### Delegation Departs

*GF221419 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] Brother Muhsin Ibrahim, secretary general of the Lebanese Communist Action Organization, left Aden today following a visit to the PDRY which lasted for several days.

During the visit, he met with leading YSP officials and was informed of the ill-omened 13 January events.

In a statement to ANA, Comrade Muhsin Ibrahim expressed confidence in the ability of our party and its leadership to rise to the level of the challenges which confront the socialist experiment in the PDRY and to adopt further correct measures toward remedying the effects of the serious events, to uphold the banner of party legitimacy, to consolidate the party's role, and to enable all institutions to carry out their tasks to surmount the effects of the ordeal.

He reaffirmed the Lebanese Communist Action Organization's solidarity with the YSP. He urged Arab and international nationalist and progressive forces to demonstrate solidarity with our people to face the effects resulting from the abortive coupist plot.

He was seen off by Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the YSP

Political Bureau and foreign minister.

## AL-MUSTAQBAL Interviews Chairman al-'Attas

*JN231120 Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic 22 Feb 86 pp 24-25*

[Interview with Engineer Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the PDRY Supreme People's Council Presidium, in Aden by *AL-MUSTAQBAL* correspondent Sulayman Nimr — date not given]

[Excerpt] [Sulayman Nimr] Did former chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad plan to implement the 13 January events because he felt that you as a collective leadership wanted to topple him from the party and state leadership?

[Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas) 'Ali Nasir Muhammad implemented his design because he felt that the party's pillars and leadership began to fully realize his unacceptable practices, whether on the party affairs level because of his nonadherence to the various party frameworks, institutions, and resolutions or on the level of his nonadherence to the party's democratic practices, as well as the party's opposition to his practices and policies as far as the party's internal and external policies are concerned. He also rumored that our call to rectify these practices through citicism and self-criticism within the party framework was aimed at removing him personally from authority. This is in spite of the fact that the YSP's Third General Congress decided to keep him in power and reelected him as the party's secretary general. However, he claimed that he personally was the target in order to attract sympathy. He also began to spread rumors that the conflict within the party was a tribal and sectarian one, which was completely untrue. During the Political Bureau's meeting in May 1985, he said that he felt that he personally was a target. However, we explained to him that he would remain the party's secretary general, provided he also remained faithful to the party's principles, policies, and programs.

[Nimr] But did you actually have any intention of removing him?

[Al-'Attas] Our dispute with him was not aimed at toppling him. We did not have any such intention. Our aim was to rectify the revolution's course and adhere to the party's policy through self-criticism and by continuing to respect the party bodies and institutions in accordance with the party's internal system and programs.

[Nimr] The events of 13 January came as a bloody solution to differences of opinion within the party. In the Central Committee's statement and in your statements, you affirmed the continuation of the previous foreign policy. What was the point of dispute with 'Ali Nasir Muhammad? Was it an ideological or organizational difference, or what?

[Al-'Attas ] The policy of the YSP will remain as it is because the party charted this policy and we believe in it. However, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's practices were moving away from the course of the party and the policies it endorsed. On the party level, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's practices were weakening the YSP's leading role in society. This was a major point of difference with him. He exercised obsolute individual authority and did not recognize the party leadership. This was the main difference which created various secondary differences.

The second difference revolved around his malpractices with regard to economic issues. The PDRY is a poor country and its resources are scarce. It is known that the main task presented to us by the party through the third development plan was to develop the economy of our country to become an economy of production instead of an economy of services. However, 'Ali Nasir's economic malpractices deviated from the objectives of the party's economic policy. For example, he encouraged over-spending and the squandering of funds in a manner that affected our economic capabilities. He also corrupted party and state cadres by paying followers. He encouraged nonproductive projects in spite of the fact that the priority of our development plans is to pay for development and productive projects. For example, during the third general congress, he wanted to undertake expensive celebrations which would have adversely affected our economic projects. However, the Political Bureau stopped this to prevent our country's money from being wasted, especially since our people need this money.

As far as the party's foreign policy is concerned, it is known that the party laid down the bases and principles of our peaceful policy which is based on peaceful coexistance. However, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad wanted to give the impression that this policy existed on an individual basis and not on the basis of relations wtih party and state. In this regard, he concentrated on the brothers and friends in countries with which we have good relations.

[Nimr] Does this mean that the dispute was not a power struggle?

[Al-'Attas] Not at all. It was not a power struggle. We all participated in the party and state leadership. Comrade 'Ali 'Antar was vice president. However, we wanted everyone to work within the party's policy and course. The dispute was over a demand for making the collective leadership prevail and for everyone to abide by the collective opinion in running the affairs of the country.

[Nimr] How true are the reports of a reconciliation aimed at permitting the return of elements and groups belonging to 'Ali Nasir who fled the country, especially those who did not participate in the planning and implementation of the 13 January events? Is it possible for those who took part in the events to return and be accorded a just trial?

[Al-'Attas] There is no such thing that we term reconciliation. The party's Political Bureau and Central Committee now judge 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's elements by the extent of their participation in the bloody events. Those who planned and implemented should not be put into the class with those who were misled into taking part or those who only supported his opinion. During the dispute which 'Ali Nasir tried to explode in May 1985, the Political Bureau and Central Committee endorsed the principles of not resorting to arms to settle the dispute and not accusing anyone who takes up arms of national treason. This is because we believed that differences within the party should be resolved within the party frameworks and institutions. Therefore, anyone who did not take part in the events will be regarded as someone who was misled; and it is possible that such elements will be reevaluated and given party indoctrination. The elements which took part in the events were also misled. They will not be regarded as as bad as those who planned and led the conspiracy.

[Nimr] Do you expect the return of some of the groups which fled the country, especially the leaders who did not take part in the events?

[Al-'Attas] We welcome their return. This is their country. They must return and they will be judged only by the mistakes they commit. We will not prosecute anyone who was misled. However, as far as the others are concerned, we will guarantee them a just, humane, and national trial.

[Nimr] Is a general amnesty to be expected?

[Al-'Attas] We adopted numerous steps and decisions following our party's triumph over the conspiracy in order to reinforce the unity of our party and country. The Political Bureau and party leadership will adopt all the measures to achieve this end, including the possibility of releasing many detainees who did not play a major role in the conspiracy.

[Nimr] You released 10,000 detainees. However, we have heard that there are 500 people still detained.

[Al-'Attas] Yes, we have released a number of detainees and we are still detaining others.

[Nimr] It was noticed that PLO representative 'Abbas Zaki did not take part in the funeral of 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il and his comrades on Tuesday afternoon. We asked 'Abbas Zaki about this and he said that he was not invited to attend. We also noticed that representatives from the other Palestinian factions such as the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the PFLP, and AL-SA'IQAH, attended. Does that mean anything?

[Al-'Attas] As far as what has been said about not inviting 'Abbas Zaki, I believe that there was some kind of misunderstanding. This is my initial assessment of the situation. However, I can affirm that our relations with the organization [the PLO] are good and 'Abbas Zaki represents the PLO in our country. There may have been certain concomitants during the events but we did not pay much attention to that. This is because we are eager to preserve our relations with the PLO just as we are eager to preserve the unity of the Palestinian people. There may have been some procedural mistakes as to why 'Abbas Zaki did not attend the funeral. However, I affirm that we invited all the representatives of the liberation movements.

[Nimr] What are these concomitants which you said took place during the bloody events? Was it the PLO's attempt at reconciliation? Or was it some rumors that spoke of the participation of some Palestinians in the events?

[Al-'Attas] We declared our stand on Yasir 'Arafat's attempt at mediation because we did not want to involve the PLO in this affair. We explained to the PLO leadership that what was taking place was an internal affair. The comrades who were here explained this. I explained it also when I was abroad through cables with Yasir 'Arafat.

[Nimr] What was Abu 'Ammar's [Yasir 'Arafat's] reply?

[Al-'Attas] His reply was positive. He told us that he would not send any forces to the PDRY unless the comrades in the country ask for them. As far as the concomitants are concerned, these emerged through the presence of a number of Palestinians here who had personal relations with a number of elements who were involved in the conspiracy such as Muhammad 'Ali Ahmad. We did not adopt a stand until we could accurately confirm such participation. However, this does not mean that the PLO or Fatah were involved. No. However, the personal relations between some Palestinian elements and Muhammad 'Ali Ahmad may have been exploited to extend personal efforts and contribution to the conspiracy elements.

[Nimr] Do you have any intention of embarking on an Arab tour soon?

[Al-'Attas] We are conducting contacts with all the Arab countries regarding such visits in order to explain the recent events in our country and affirm our good intentions toward developing and improving our relations with all the Arab brothers, especially the brothers in the GCC. We have received a number of positive replies and are awaiting the replies of others.

## Kuwaiti Paper Interviews 'Ali Nasir Muhammad

*GF221544 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 21 Feb 86 pp 1, 21*

[Interview with 'Ali Nasir Muhammad by *AL-SIYASAH* correspondent Mursi al-Nuwayshi at Muhammad's base, 180 km from Aden in the PDRY — date not given]

[Text][Mursi al-Nuwayshi] Although you are currently excluded from authority, you still enter the country. Don't you fear for your life?

['Ali Nasir Muhammad] A struggler does not fear for his life because principles make and form his life. That is why I am not frightened by anything. You are in the PDRY and surrounded by thousands of struggling Muslim citizens who are quite prepared to return to Aden to regain legitimacy. These strugglers are not only armed with weapons, but also with legitimacy and belief. You are asking me about my life. I tell you that it is the property of these strugglers and a part of the Yemeni people's power and the alliance of its farmers and workers. A struggler is the last person to think of his own life.

With reference to your remark that I am excluded from the authority, that is incorrect. I represent legitimacy. That is why I am confident that my homeland will not renounce me.

[Al-Nuwayshi] Why don't you begin to return if your combat power is complete?

[Muhammad] The separatist clique's illegitimate action to control power has caused destruction and devastation in the country. They destroyed all of the revolutionary achievements we had struggled for for so long. I do not wish to finish off what is left — if there is anything left. I favor the framework of centralism tampered with by this clique which has blatantly violated the agreement of 5 February 1975 — considered by our masses as the most important achievement of the national and democratic Yemeni movement.

[Al-Nuwayshi] However, a new leadership is in control now. Don't you think this leadership should be given a chance?

[Muhammad] The new leadership, to which you referred, is not legitimate. It is merely a formation which has emerged while hiding the remnants and deposits of the past. This formation is based on tribal and clannish conflicts and not on our party unity which stems from internationalism. If this formation was sincere and liberal, it would have accepted dialogue as the principle to obtain a solution for the conflict. It has stretched its hatred to the level that it has expelled all of the patriotic groups known for their conscious party trends. It has also eliminated pioneering elements and alert cadres of the previous national front.

[Al-Nuwayshi] Maybe after this leadership has passed through a transitional period life in the PDRY will return to normal.

[Muhammad] How can life return to normal while it is still adopting a clannish conduct. This crazy separatist clique has caused a huge catastrophe in our country. Will this clique return life to normal while still destroying the economic and strategic achievements for which our people struggled for so many years? Life will not return to normal in our country unless this corrupt clique is eliminated, because it has bypassed the will of our brave Yemeni masses.

[Al-Nuwayshi] In the current circumstances, how do you envisage your political future?

[Muhammad] My future is connected with that of my country and cannot be separated from it. I have been and will be a combatant for the contemporary Yemeni renaissance. Do not ask about my future, but about my country's future, which has been destroyed by tribal hatred. Have faith that with support from this country's sincere sons I will rebuild it as a contemporary country. Our alert people will surpass this ordeal with continued struggle based on the revolution's principles.

[Al-Nuwayshi] Do you think the current authority will allow you what you want?

[Muhammad] A struggler does not wait for what he is allowed to do. If he is a true struggler, he must try to fulfill the hopes and aspirations of the masses for the sake of the next generations. The YSP Political Bureau and Central Committee members and I will begin a dialogue and adhere to legitimacy. If the separatist clique prolongs its clannish tendencies, we will resort to another method to achieve legitimacy, which is a right.

[Al-Nuwayshi] Do you mean the military option?

[Muhammad] Will we have any other choice? We will not allow a clique of traitors to trample on the resources and achievements of our struggling and alert people with such ease. It is our right to struggle. We will take the military option, if the separatist clique rejects constructive and conscious dialogue.

[Al-Nuwayshi] But it seems that a majority of the Yemeni people have accepted the fait accompli.

[Muhammad] I don't accept this opinion, because it indicates defeatism that absolutely does not reflect the nature of our struggling people. Who told you that our people have accepted what has happened? Now, the whole world should know the killings and arrests of our unarmed citizens and party cadres in the capital of our country and in the majority of our villages and cities is madness that has left thousands of the sons of our people without shelter. Do you know about the demonstrations staged during the first hours of the incidents calling for the continuation of the legitimacy? Do you know that 15,000 citizens took part in these demonstrations and that these demonstrations were confronted with tanks and that over 5,000 citizens were killed? Do you know about the demonstrations staged by the women's society which demanded the legitimacy? The demonstrations were attacked and over a thousand of our struggling women were killed and several thousand were arrested. Do you know that the separatist clique broke into the houses of citizens and arrested some of them and assassinated others? Do you know that the separatist clique broke into hospitals and killed thousands of wounded citizens? Do the Yemeni people accept this? Our people are now facing the most difficult days. Our people are being mistreated without reasons and just because they are backing the legitimacy and the continuation of our progressive march.

[Al-Numayshi] The rulers in Aden are now saying exactly the same thing. They are saying that they are against splits and tribalism and that they are backing the revolution and struggle of the Yemeni people.

[Muhammad] Who believes this? Those who believe what they are saying should follow what is happening in our country. They will find that what they are saying is one thing and what is happening is something else. The separatist clique which destroyed our country is working for imperialism and for the backwardness of our country. This is the reality everyone should know. I again repeat that he who goes back to the third party congress in 1985 will definitely discover that the congress approved the party program, the internal system, the 5-year economic plan and that it unanimously elected the party leadership, including the Central Committee, the Political Bureau, and the secretary general. Those who followed the congress know that there were no differences on the revolutionary course of the party. Some elements tried to create differences for the purpose of destroying the party and revolution. When they failed in their separatist endeavors they decided to use tanks and missiles to crush and destroy the people, their intrinsic forces, and their strength acquired through struggle. Since this clique does not rely on any form of legitimacy and since it has no party or constitutional legitimacy it resorted to armed force to protect its imperialist interests. Knowing that it would be discovered and foiled by our struggling people it immediately deviated from the legitimacy which governs our constitutional and party movement.

[Al-Numayshi] Some elements said that you were aware of some parts of a conspiracy to overthrow the regime, but you did not move and left the coupists to consolidate themselves.

[Muhammad] I will say the truth. I received some information about suspected moves, but I never took these moves as separatist attempts. I have always resorted to democracy inside the Political Bureau to settle the problems which may erupt among comrades. I did not imagine that some comrades would incite backward chauvinism in a modern state. I believe in the unity of struggle. Therefore, I resorted to dialogue to construct and integrate our revolutionary experience so that it could become a guiding example in the region. I have been and am still trusting the ability of our people to surpass the hardship they are facing. What has happened is a bitter experience which will make us stronger and prompt our masses to stick to the revolutionary gains achieved by our struggling party. Those who reject democracy and resort to chauvinism and backwardness have violated the Constitution and the documents of our struggling party and its internal system. However, I affirm that our struggling people will learn the lesson well and that they will not allow those to destroy their long struggle for which they made many sacrifices. Anyone who deeply penetrates the delicate structure of the fascist clique will definitely discover the narrow outlook of this clique.

[Al-Nuwayshi] You could have stayed if you were confident about the Yemeni people's support for you.

[Muhammad] Who told you I have left the country? I am here as you can see. I did make some outside visits which were an integral part of our main goal — the return to legitimacy. We think collectively. Ask those young people who support them [not further identified]. Our country needs our support which will always be dedicated to rebuilding what the traitors destroyed. I shall invite you to visit Aden soon to witness how Yemen will be rebuilt after its destruction. Your problem is that you do not recognize the power and solidity of the Yemeni citizens who are capable of overcoming their painful plight. The world will learn a new experiment in construction which will be registered by mankind.

[Al-Nuwayshi] Thus, you insist on continuing the dispute?

[Muhammad] I object to this question. We do not want or promote a dispute. We are seeking legitimacy and will achieve it with our struggle. We will not allow the reactionary and imperialist forces to ruin our people's accomplishments. As I see it, legitimacy is the return to the program of the party's third annual congress and the productive Central Committee to represent our people. This is what we demand. What we do not accept is fascist and iniquitous forces tampering with our experiment. We will struggle against it to the last day of our lives. Our national cause cannot be bargained with. Extremism exercised thoroughly is real perfidy.

The results of the third annual party congress added a new page to our country's struggle and bright history. Our struggle has taken various forms and does not recognize dodgery. We will continue our struggle to build a new life for workers, farmers, and other toilers. The way our people have received this great historic event painted — through the unity of voice, action, and attitude — the horizons for the development of our revolutionary process. The third party congress crowned the preparation work carried out by the party and people, which they inaugurated by the work schedule document approved by the Central Committee's 14th session.

The results of the congress expressed the masses' love and respect for their leader, party and revolutionary and tested leadership represented by the Central Committee and the Political Bureau. At the same time, these results represented clear proof of the extensive and growing effect of the party on our worker and toiler masses — as it is the brain, honor, and remorse of the people. After all we have accomplished, how can we go back 1000 years? We do not accept this and our people do not accept it because they have sacrificed much.

[Al-Nuwayshi] Why did the Soviets abandon you and adopt the coupist leadership?

[Muhammad] Who said that? This is merely a rumor repeated by the United States which still carries all bad intentions toward the PDRY. The Soviets and Kuwait did not participate in the country's events in any manner. International imperialism seeks pretexts to intervene in the region's affairs. We do not accept it. We have warned and are still warning against interference in the PDRY's internal affairs. What has happened and will happen in our country is our internal affair. The YSP and Yemeni people alone can resolve the recent difficulties.

[Al-Nuwayshi] Why did Al-Qadhdhafi and Mengistu abandon you, since their support for you at the beginning of the events was obvious?

[Muhammad] There is no answer to this question.

[Al-Nuwayshi] What did your Arab tours and the tours which were made by some YSP Political Bureau members — who are still with you — achieve?

[Muhammad] I met with President al-Asad, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi and President Chadli Bendjedid and they gave me a good welcome. My visits were successful and useful. During those visits, we presented the point of view of our country, people, and party to the brother leaders. We found them totally sympathetic to our people's issue. We also made visits to Ethiopia and we sent a number of delegations to Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the Gulf countries, the socialist countries, and to a number of nonaligned countries. Our moves were successful. We also held a number of contacts with Arab and international organizations urging them to provide quick aid and relief to our people. I take this opportunity to thank and salute all those who have provided aid to our people during the current difficult and complicated circumstances.

[Al-Nuwayshi] How do you describe the future?

[Muhammad] I am confident that our struggling people and our party will restore their unity. I do not think there will be negotiations with the separatist clique while the people and the party cadres are being subjected to suppression in the prisons. There can be no solution to the destructive crisis caused to our country unless our conditions are accepted. We have already stated our demands, which are the following:

1. To prevent the foreign interference in Yemen's affairs, regardless of the justifications;
2. To safeguard the party's unity;
3. To work to restore the national unity;
4. To defend the party legitimacy and to keep the party united by safeguarding what was agreed upon on 5 February 1975 and by what was agreed upon during the first party congress, the extraordinary party congress, and the third party congress held on 14 October 1985;
5. To adhere to the party's program and its documents;
6. To stop fighting our people and the party's pioneer cadres, to stop the massacres, to restore normal life and to be concerned with issues dealing with the people's everyday life. Also, to help return thousands of refugees to their homes, to put an end to the martial laws and to release the political detainees.

Those are the conditions we have stated. We cannot reach an understanding with the separatist clique without the implementation of those conditions.

[Al-Nuwayshi] What if they do not agree to those conditions?

[Muhammad] We have a substitute.

[Al-Nuwayshi] Your setting conditions gives the impression that there is a power backing you, thus making you put conditions regardless of the fact that those whom you are naming as the separatist clique have put everything in order?

[Muhammad] Yes, I have the power of the whole Yemeni people behind me and this is a basic issue.

[Al-Nuwayshi] What if your current Arab allies abandon you?

[Muhammad] The real power we rely upon lies in us, in a people who found their path to salvation and who will not abandon this path.

[Al-Nuwayshi] What about the unity programs with North Yemen?

[Muhammad] Like me, Brother President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih is sincere in his unity trend. We made big progress toward achieving the supreme goal of the Yemeni people. This step will continue because it is the aspiration of every Yemeni. Certainly, the unity aspiration cannot be achieved while this separatist clique is ruling our country, because this clique is attempting to demolish and abort the unity. Thus, I reaffirm once again that our people are able to overcome the ordeal and to restore the country's legitimacy from which we will further proceed toward the unity of the two parts of Yemen and consequently proceed toward the great goal, the unity of the Arab people.

## Chadian Envoy Arrives in Cairo, Talks With Leaders

### Mubarak Receives Nouri

*NC221109 Cairo MENA in English 1055 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] Cairo, Feb 22 (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak received today at the Republican Palace Mahamat Nouri, special envoy of Chadian President Hissein Habre. The meeting was attended by Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs and the Chadian ambassador here.

### Asks for Military Aid

*NC221454 Paris AFP in English 1443 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] Cairo, Feb 22 (AFP) — The Government of Chad has requested additional military aid from Egypt to help it battle Libyan-backed rebels in the north of the country, a senior Chadian official said here today. Mahamat Nouri, an envoy of Chadian President Hissein Habre, said after meeting here today with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak that he had asked Egypt for additional material support, but no troops. He added that Cairo already supplied the Habre regime with military aid and that the current request was for a step up in aid deliveries. Mr Nouri did not say how Egypt had responded to the request.

### Nouri on Aid, Libya

*NC221455 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1155 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] Cairo, 22 Feb (MENA) — Mahamat Nouri, a special envoy of Chadian President Hissein Habre, has emphasized that Libya has committed acts of aggression against Chad. In a statement to journalists today, Nouri noted: Our accusations against Libya have been proven. We have captured a group of Libyan soldiers and have distributed their pictures to the Chadian and world media. They have seen these Libyan troops who have committed acts of aggression against Chad. Libya has also sent a plane to attack Ndjamena Airport.

When asked if French military aid to Chad is sufficient, and if there is a French military presence in the country, Nouri replied: We have some French Air Force units that have been given a special assignment. We believe that French air cover for our forces is now enough to stop any new Libyan attack on our territory.

Answering a question on whether he requested Egyptian aid during his meeting with President Mubarak, the Chadian envoy said: It is no secret that Chad has been receiving assistance from Egypt for a long time now. He added: We have called on all our friends to provide us with military equipment, and have asked France to give us air cover. However, we have not asked for a single soldier.

While answering a question on why Chad is requesting additional military aid even though the situation there is now calm, Nouri declared: The situation in Chad currently is calm, but it might change at any time — today, tomorrow, next week, or in a month's time.

Nouri had this to say on recent developments in Chad: The purpose of my visit to Egypt was to brief President Mubarak and other officials on conditions in Chad. My mission is in accordance with the friendly relations between Chad and Egypt. He said that he had delivered a message to President Husni Mubarak from Chadian President Hissein Habre.

## Further on Jordan-PLO Issue, Egyptian Reaction

### Husayn Phones Mubarak

*NC231157 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1150 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] Cairo, 23 Feb (MENA) — King Husayn of Jordan phoned President Husni Mubarak at noon today for an exchange of views on the current regional situation.

### 'Abd al-Majid on Jordan-PLO

*NC221201 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1050 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] Cairo, 22 Feb (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has stated that Egypt is currently involved in efforts to bring the views of the PLO and King Husayn closer together, and has expressed hope that they will be successful. In a statement to journalists today, 'Abd al-Majid noted that more time is needed to calm things down before addressing the primary problems.

When asked if King Husayn's speech was a surprise, 'Abd al-Majid replied: Without trying to comment on King Husayn's address of Yasir 'Arafat's reaction to it, I believe we should look more to the future than the past, and find ways of overcoming these differences. While answering a question on 'Arafat's position during his recent talks with the Jordanian monarch, 'Abd al-Majid declared: We must not pass judgment on anyone; that is not part of our current role. As to whether 'Arafat showed any flexibility during his talks in Cairo, 'Abd al-Majid pointed out: I feel we must look to the future. We have stated our own position clearly, and our job is to bring Jordan and the Palestinians closer together, if we can. We hope that our Arab brothers will help us in this, as it will serve the Palestinian issue and the cause of peace and stability.

'Abd al-Majid said: I do not think that the Jordanians or the Palestinians have closed every door. We understand the present difficulties. A statement was issued yesterday explaining Egypt's position. We are certainly trying to narrow the gap between the Palestinians and Jordanians wherever possible. When asked if Egypt had any advance knowledge of King Husayn's speech and his decisions, 'Abd al-Majid responded: I was abroad at the time. After I came back, I learned that President Mubarak had gotten in touch with King Husayn.

### AL-AHRAM Editorial

*PM240945 Cairo AL-AHRAM International Edition in Arabic 21 Feb 86 p 3*

[Editorial: "When Will the Arabs Awaken From Their Slumber?"]

[Text] In a sudden development, Jordan's King Husayn announced the termination of the Jordanian-Palestinian accord following the failure of coordination between the two, which was due to the PLO's insistence on clear-cut U.S. recognition of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination before announcing its acceptance of Security Council Resolution 242 and 338.

Whatever Jordan's reasons and motives for taking this step may be, and regardless of the influences and pressures that have prevented the moderates in the Palestinian leadership from proceeding on the path of peace to the end, in the end the only loser is the Palestinian problem, which with the passage of time is threatened with passing into oblivion. This is in addition to the grave loss for the Palestinian people, who are suffering bitterly under the yoke of Israeli occupation, persecution, and oppression in the West Bank and Gaza. Although this may not be a suitable time to apportion blame, it is clear that we as Arabs have not learned the lessons of failure since 1948 and up to this date and that we are still not up to the responsibilities required of us, having failed to adopt the most fundamental principles of using political tactics without jeopardizing the strategic objectives that cannot all be achieved at once.

Without boasting or gloating — for this is not the time to do so — we would say that when Egypt was insisting, warning, and appealing for the need to seize the historic opportunity for peace throughout 1985 following the positive signs that emerged on the international scene after the proclamation of the Jordanian-Palestinian accord, it did so out of concern and fear that failure to seize this opportunity might lead to the collapse of the accord and the lack of coordination we are witnessing today.

The situation being so grave now, all we can do is hope that this sudden and sensational development will not lead to a break in relations between the PLO and Jordan. Indeed we hope that dialogue and consultation between the two sides will not stop. King Husayn was right to say in his speech that the Palestinian axis remains at the center of Jordanian policies and that even if this round of political action between the Jordanian and Palestinian leaderships does not lead to achieving Jordan's goals, the Jordanian-Palestinian accord, with all its principles and tenets, will continue to embody the principles and constitute the basis governing ties between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples with respect to equal rights and duties in facing their common destiny. We also hope that the Arab leaders will awaken from their slumber. What more grave events and great disasters must there be before joint Arab action is awakened from this slumber? Perhaps King Husayn's warning of the terrible things that are happening in the occupied territories will remove all excuses for convening an urgent emergency Arab summit in order to discuss these developments.

Israel, O Arab nation, is still persisting in implementing its expansionist plans. Its immediate objective, O arab leaders, is to detach the Palestinian people from their land. What the Jordanian monarch said, even if it is painful for all of us, is true. That is, a people without land is a mere community, an identity without a homeland is merely a depot of sad memories, and a people persecuted in their land yet resisting is better than a people dispersed making threats and engaged in rhetoric.

Israel, O Arab nation, is continuing its repressive and terrorist policy in Lebanese territory. Not satisfied with swallowing all Palestinian land, day and night Israel is roaming southern Lebanon with its tanks, armored vehicles, and aircraft. It blows up houses, combs the land, arrests hundreds of people, and kills scores of them. In this recent incursion into Lebanon it reached the Al-Litani River, 25 km north of its borders with Lebanon.

In addition to the Palestinian and Lebanese catastrophes, the tragic developments of the Gulf war come as yet another clear warning of danger that no one should overlook. Yet, the majority of the Arab world is adopting a spectator's attitude toward this tragedy. Indeed, most unfortunately, there are people in the Arab world who support the Iranian regime and strengthen the Iranian war machine to enable it to continue its aggression against Iraq. The recent developments in Arab politics can no longer be merely described as problems, disasters, and crises. Indeed it is imperative that immediate action should be taken before it is too late in order to end disunity and disagreement and to unify efforts and join hands. If this does not happen immediately and without delay then history will have no mercy for those who hesitate and those who plot — wittingly or unwittingly — against the interests of their nation.

## Further on Visit by Danish Queen, Foreign Minister

### Mubarak: Talks 'Important'

*NC231949 Cairo MENA in English*
*1914 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] Luxor, Egypt, Feb 23 (MENA) — Queen Margrethe of Denmark and her husband Prince Henrik made a sightseeing tour today of Luxor where they saw the town's archeological sites. Meanwhile, Danish Ambassador William Thune Andersen said the queen was pleased with her meeting with President Husni Mubarak and termed her visit to Egypt as successful. He told MENA the queen's talks with President Mubarak were important and very constructive, noting that the talks opened spheres for bilateral cooperation in various fields. He further said Queen Margrethe's visit aims at supporting Egypt's role in pushing forward the peace process with a view to achieving peace in the Middle East.

### Industry Minister Receives Delegation

*NC232234 Cairo MENA in English 1925 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] Cairo, Feb 23 (MENA) — Engineer Muhammad 'Abd al-Wahhab, minister of industry, received today the Danish delegation accompanying Queen Margrethe, which comprises 30 Danish businessmen. Engineer 'Abd al-Wahhab said that the two sides discussed cooperation between the two countries, especially in the domains of producing seed oils, canned fish, treatment of industrial pollution and vocational training in the sphere of food industries. The two sides also discussed the possibility of cooperation between the two countries in the field of ship building.

### Danish Foreign Minister Departs
*NC231705 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1540 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] Cairo, 23 Feb (MENA) — Uffe Ellemann-Jensen, Danish foreign minister and a member of the delegation that accompanied Danish Queen Margrethe II during her official visit to Egypt, left Cairo today. The Danish foreign minister said that he met with a number of Egyptian finance and commerce officials to increase bilateral cooperation and to arrange Denmark's role in the Egyptian development plan. He said that he signed an agreement with Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning and international cooperation, under which Denmark will extend a $47 million loan to Egypt as part of the Egyptian development plan.

### 'Abd al-Majid, Ghali Receive U.S. Senator Mathias
*NC231511 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1415 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] Cairo, 23 Feb (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today met with Senator Charles Mathias, member of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, who is currently visiting Egypt. During the meeting, which U.S. Ambassador Nicholas Veliotes attended, they reviewed the situation in the Middle East in light of the recent regional developments. 'Abd al-Majid affirmed the importance of further efforts to unify disparate views to reach the cherished goal of just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, met with Senator Mathias at noon today and explained Egypt's opposition to racial discrimination and support for Namibia's independence. He also discussed the deteriorating economic situation in Africa, the international efforts to deal with this situation, and the convocation of the UN General Assembly extraordinary session in May to talk about how to confront the economic crisis in Africa.

### Lutfi Praises U.S. Secretary of State's Remarks
*NC231628 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1500 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi today received in his office U.S. Ambassador Nicholas Veliotes, the USAID director in Cairo, and the economic adviser at the U.S. Embassy. They reviewed issues of concern to the United States and Egypt. Ambassador Veliotes noted the U.S. secretary of state's comments to Congress on Egypt's importance in the Middle East. Lutfi expressed his appreciation of these comments. He explained the Egyptian Government interest in increasing U.S. investments, particularly in the areas of land reclamation and power production.

### 'Abd al-Majid, Netherlands Envoy Discuss Mideast
*NC231644 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1530 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] Cairo, 23 Feb (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today met with Netherlands Ambassador N.H. Biegman as part of the current Egyptian contacts with the EEC to give impetus to the peace process. The Netherlands at present holds the EEC chairmanship. Dr 'Abd al-Majid and Ambassador Biegman reviewed the latest developments in the Middle East and the results of the deputy prime minister's meetings with 12 EEC foreign ministers. 'Abd al-Majid stressed Egypt's extreme interest in taking steps to increase the European role in the Middle East to boost the peace process.

### 'Abd al-Majid Addresses People's Assembly
*NC232120 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1630 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Excerpt] Cairo, 23 Feb (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has declared that, for Egypt, the Palestinian problem is linked to national and pan-Arab peace and security. He emphasized that Egypt will not end its efforts to achieve a peaceful and just solution to this problem, nor will it despair. In a statement to the People's Assembly's Committees for Arab, Foreign, and National Security Affairs this evening, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that Egypt will continue to welcome close contact with Jordan and the PLO to unify their views. He asserted that Egypt will faithfully and sincerely seek to maintain the momentum of the peace process.

Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid stated that Egypt has appealed to all the friendly and peace-loving states not to let the obvious differences in the Arab parties' stands weaken the international community, nor impede work on the peace process. Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid affirmed that Egypt's position on the Iraq-Iran war continues to be governed by the same principles that Egypt has been propounding and emphasizing since the outbreak of the war: The political independence and territorial sovereignty of all states must be respected; and that international legitimacy and international law must also be respected. He said that Egypt rejects imposing conditions, and using threats and armed force to subdue the peoples' will. Egypt denounces these practices by any state against another. Dr 'Abd al-Majid noted that Egyptian national security is closely linked with the security of the region and Gulf area.

### 'Military Towns' Being Built Near Libyan Border
*NC210804 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic*
*0700 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, has announced that two military towns [madinah 'askariyah] are being built in the Sidi Barrani and Marsa Matruh regions [near the Libyan border]. The projects are part of the Armed Forces plan to put up a number of such installations. Abu Ghazalah said that this type of town is seen as a way of stimulating the construction of new civilian communities, which will grow up around them.

### Saudi Foreign Minister Arrives in Baghdad

*JN221846 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1827 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Feb (INA) — Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal arrived here this evening on a visit to Iraq. He was received by Latif Nusayyif Jasim, minister of culture and information and acting foreign minister, and Nuri Isma'il al-Wayyis, Foreign Ministry under secretary.

#### Received by Saddam Husayn

*JN231827 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1712 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] President Saddam Husayn received Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal this evening. The meeting was attended by Latif Nusayyif Jasim, minister of culture and information and acting foreign minister, the president's secretary, and the Saudi ambassador in Baghdad.

### President Returns From VII Army Corps Sector Tour

*JN231706 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1655 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Feb (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has retuned to Baghdad at the end of a 5-day inspection tour of the VII Army Corps sector. At a meeting with Staff General 'Adnan Khayrallah, deputy Armed Forces commander in chief and defense minister, Armed Forces General Command officers, the VII Army Corps commander, and field commanders, President Saddam Husayn was briefed on the arrangements and measures being made by the Iraqi Armed Forces to confront the Iranian aggression and repulse the enemy.

President Saddam Husayn also inspected an airbase and met with its commander, who briefed him on the Iraqi Air Force's capabilities and its means to deal devastating blows to the Iranian forces.

### Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iran

#### Two New Attacks Reported

*JN221332 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1315 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Feb (INA) — Staff Major General Mahir 'Abd al-Rashid, commander of the VII Army Corps Central column, has said that the Iraqi forces last night and this morning carried out two attacks on positions opposite the column which were occupied by Iranian forces.

In a statement to the Armed Forces radio station today, Maj Gen Mahir 'Abd al-Rashid affirmed that Iraqi forces managed to control many major positions after inflicting heavy losses on the Iranian forces. He also said that the two new attacks will be the key to a final victory over the Iranian forces on the VII Army Corps front.

#### Column Advances Reported

*JN231614 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1540 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] VII Army Corps Sector, 23 Feb (INA) — The Iraqi southern, central, and northern columns continued their combat activities to destroy the aggressor Iranian forces and liberate the land in Al-Faw triangle of their filth. The INA team closely monitoring the progress of battles from forward positions on the VII Army Corps front says that fierce fighting took place last night between formations of the southern and central columns on one side and the Iranian forces which tried to recapture positions that the Iraqi forces had liberated yesterday and the night before on the other. The INA team says that the Iraqi formations entrenched their new positions and aborted all the enemy forces' offensives, inflicting heavy losses in life and equipment.

In a statement to the INA team, a field commander said that the liberated positions are of vital importance to the Iranians from the topographical point of view. Thus, the enemy made desperate attempts to recapture them. All these attempts failed and the enemy sustained heavy losses in life and equipment.

The INA team also says that formations of the central column launched a resolute offensive this morning and succeeded in liberating an important communications junction the enemy had occupied. Many enemy troops were killed or wounded while others surrendered to escape death. Destroyed enemy weapons and military hardware litter the battlefield.

On the flank of the southern column, fighting continues to rage as the column's formations strive to liberate the Iraqi land from the claws of the aggressors.

Another field commander told the INA team that the column's formations have advanced on the ground after crushing the Iranian forces and inflicting heavy losses.

Reporting on the activities of the northern column, the INA team says that formations from this column continued to support the central and southern columns today by pouring intensive fire on Iranian enemy positions and military hardware in a coordinated manner unprecedented in battles over the past 2 decades.

#### Forces Continue Battlefield Control

*JN220822 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0645 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[By Usamah al-Salihi]

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 22 Feb (INA) — The decisive hour when the Iraqi forces will end the Iranian forces' presence on Iraqi territory is getting closer. Military sources here affirm that on the 13th day of fighting, the Iranian forces appear to be in a desperate defensive position, and that their attacks are weak, thus confirming that they have lost their control and their morale. The desperate attempts by the Iranian command to keep the land is a sign that it has lost its military awareness following the new losses in life it sustained which have reached some 60,000 killed or wounded. The Iraqi units continue to tighten the siege on the Iranian forces despite the Iranian regime's attempts to bring in more reinforcements.

Press reports from the VII Army Corps front affirm that the Iraqi forces are imposing their complete control on the battlefield, and that thanks to the coordination of the various corps and the participation of surface-to-surface missile units and artillery, the Iraqi forces are destroying the remainder of the Iranian forces and preventing the enemy's attempts to bring in more reinforcements to assist the besieged forces.

The Iraqi forces are now concentrating their blows on Iranian troop concentrations on the Shatt al-Arab bank that is adjacent to Iranian territory, especially the positions that are adjacent to the palm strip on the shore. The Iraqi forces continue to intensively shell the Iranian forces day and night. An Iraqi war correspondent describes the intensive Iraqi firepower by saying: One does not know which gun is firing and in what direction. All that we know is that we hear the resounding roar of the guns from both sides.

The progress of the battles shows that the Iraqi forces' position is strong and cohesive and heralds further destruction of the aggressor forces. The successive Iranian attempts to introduce new units to penetrate Iraqi positions are being countered by a barrage of fire that destroys these units before they reach Iraqi positions. This strong Iraqi position on the ground is being enhanced by the complete control of the Navy and the Air Force at sea and in the skies of the battle.

The commander of the naval force and coastal defenses stressed today that his forces have succeeded in isolating the Iranian Navy and removing it from battle. He added that the naval force has also prevented it from coming to the rescue of the besieged Iranian forces. The commander added that the men of the Iraqi Navy have destroyed 31 supply ships, several units of the Iranian Navy, two missile boats, and one escort vessel, and that they are determined to destroy Iranian maritime targets.

Iraqi fighter planes and helicopter gunships are also imposing their complete control in the skies of the battle and are dealing blows to the Iranian rear lines. These planes continue to pour thousands of bombs on Iranian troop concentrations and supply routes deep inside Iranian territory and are putting Iranian fighter planes out of action.

In air sorties that have been unprecedented in history in terms of intensity, results, and impact on the progress of battles, Iraqi pilots are effectively contributing to crushing the aggressors and destroying Iran's economic resources. They carried out 5,969 combat missions during the past 13 days.

The military situation on the VII Army Corps front, where the Iraqi forces are advancing to crush the Iranian forces' infrastructure, confirms that the decisive hour is close and that a real catastrophe will befall these forces.

An Iraqi field commander says: We are now only a short distance from the area where the Iranian forces will be completely wiped out, and that the next few days will witness the crushing of the Iranian Army.

### Naval Forces' Progress Reported

*JN221244 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1208 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] The commander of the naval force and coastal defense has stressed that the valiant Iraqi naval forces are imposing their complete control on the battlefield in the northern part of the Arab Gulf and are dealing deadly blows to the defeated enemy forces.

In an interview with the correspondents of Baghdad Radio and Voice of the Masses, the commander added that the Iraqi naval force, through its operations and the effective use of the various types of weapons and naval units it possesses, offers the best kind of support for the ground forces while they continue their advance to wipe out the enemy and abort its attempts to desecrate our lofty soil.

The commander added: Our naval forces have inflicted heavy losses in life and equipment on the enemy and have made Arab Gulf waters the resting place for the destroyed enemy units. He added that the enemy sustained, among others, the following losses: 16 supply ships, 3 missile gunboats, 1 raft, and 1 early warning vessel were destroyed; 1 landing boat was captured; 3 fighter planes were shot down; and several enemy soldiers were taken prisoner.

The commander said: Our valiant naval forces succeeded in paralyzing enemy movements and banned it from appearing at the head of the Arab Gulf.

The commander of the naval force and coastal defense emphasized the naval forces' determination to remain the strong and faithful protector of the Arab Gulf and to teach harsh lessons to the enemy. He also stressed that the naval forces have a role to play in scoring Iraq's victory.

### Correspondents on Iranian Dead

*JN231154 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1107 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] South Iraq, 23 Feb (INA) — War correspondents in the operational theater in the southernmost area of Iraq have said that the fierceness of the Iraqi counterattack is escalating in order to bring the decisive end of the battles closer and to bury the rest of the invading Iranian troops in mass graves unprecedented in this 6-year war. War correspondents note that the Iranians who have escaped death are quickly retreating in disarray and some of them are being hunted by Iraqi snipers while the Iraqi forces are advancing in regular thrusts forward.

Correspondents say that special Iraqi units are burying the Iranian bodies, which have been torn apart by Iraqi artillery, rocket launchers, and plane and helicopter attacks and which are rotting on the battlefield. Correspondents add that whenever the Iraqi forces liberate a new area, certain units are assigned the task of burying dead Iranians who had been abandoned by their retreating comrades.

War correspondets point out that the past 2 weeks of fierce fighting in the VII Army Corps front included several attacks and counterattacks during which the Iraqi forces had the initiative at all times. This is corroborated by daily events. The Iraqi forces' drive, which is continuing day and night in accordance with precise planning along the three columns, is resulting in Iranian retreat with high Iranian casualties and immense losses. This shows the Iraqi forces' insistence on wiping out the Iranian invaders in their small triangle.

The correspondents note that the Iranian command will face dire consequences because of the massacre to which they pushed thousands of troops in a new adventure that is bound to fail. These correspondents believe that Iran will face a major disaster which the Iranian generations will never forget.

## Communiques Issued on Combat Activities

### No 2,124 — 21 Feb

*JN211815 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic*
*1700 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Communique No 2,124 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 21 February 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our position at the front is increasingly being strengthened and entrenched. Our massive armies, which are well armed and whose morale is extremely high, are imposing their domination over every area in the operational theater. Rivers of fire are facing the Khomeyniites. The implementation of our plan to wipe out the largest number of aggressors is approaching complete success. Wiping out the rest of the enemy troops in their tight spot and purging the final inch of their filth are now taken for granted.

Our enemy is living through most difficult, critical, and desperate circumstances. While tens of thousands of its hordes have been wiped out, huge quantities of its weapons and equipment have been destroyed, and the infrastructure of its forces has been crushed, our enemy has not realized any of its aims and has not achieved anything with which to deceive itself or give its deceitful media to chew on.

The charlatans' regime is completely impotent. It is trying in vain to ignore a veritable disaster that is hemming it in on all sides. With God's help and thanks to the wisdom of our leadership and the great performance of our valiant men, the regime of charlatans has lost the battle and the war. It will lose its very existence because this is the just punishment of tyrants and unbelievers.

1. In the VII Army Corps sector our forces in the southern column last night carried out a series of raids on enemy positions in front of them, inflicting massive losses on the Khomeyniites. At dawn today enemy groups attempted to approach our positions, but our heroes of the southern column confronted them with their firepower and wiped them out. Our forces in this area are imposing their absolute control and are inflicting massive losses on the Khomeyniites day and night. In the central and northern sectors our forces continued to direct heavy fire at enemy units in front of them, inflicting further losses on enemy men, weaponry, and equipment, and forcing the enemy to leave its units at the mercy of our firepower. Thus, the enemy ranks are being split and its concentrations are being dismembered with the aim of wiping them out. God bless the men who have pounded the basic enemy effort in order to open the door to the final, approaching victory.

2. Iraq's eagles are continuing their flights, distributing death among the Khomeyniites. Whether the enemies are on land or at sea, on their positions or on the roads at the front or inside Iran, Iraq's wrath is falling on their heads in order to smear them with mud and punish them in accordance with the will of our great people. Our planes carried out 373 raids today during which our planes destroyed huge quantities of weapons, equipment, and hardware and inflicted massive casualties, thus increasing the despair of the Iranian rulers and doubling their ignominy.

3. Our brave naval forces are crushing any hostile target that appears before them, preventing any enemy presence in the northern Arab Gulf. Our naval forces' men are affirming that the sea is exclusively theirs and that any Khomeyniite unit will end up deep on the seabed. Our naval force carried out the following missions:

a. At 2053 [1753 GMT] yesterday a large supply ship, towing three medium-size ships, was destroyed.

b. At 0250 today our brave naval force sighted an enemy early warning vessel north of the Arab Gulf. It directed its missiles at the vessel, turning it into small pieces.

4. The men of the helicopter gunships have been covering the skies of the battle, pouncing on Khomeyniite troop concentrations and weapons. In precise coordination with our land forces, the helicopters continued to push the Khomeyniite hordes toward the mill of death operated by our men in a manner that the enemies of Iraq deserve. Today the helicopter gunships carried out 333 missions after which our helicopters and pilots returned safely to base, praise be to God.

5. Our units in the III Army Corps sector east of al-Basrah directed intensive artillery fire at enemy positions, killing 20 and destroying 2 infantry positions, 3 boats, 2 mortar positions, and 1 small vehicle. In the same sector three ammunition dumps were also destroyed.

6. The criminal enemy shelled Al-Qurnah suburbs with long-range artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 21 February 1986

### No 2,125 — 22 Feb

*JN221800 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic*
*1707 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Communique No 2,125 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 22 February 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The promise of God is truthful and deeds are producing the best results. The determination of men is bearing fruit in the form of victory and all-comprehenisve welfare. Iraq was and will continue to be an averter of evil, a dam in the face of greed, and a fire for the spiteful invaders. Today the Khomeyniite knaves realize that by antagonizing Iraq they antagonize only life and development and that those who antagonize life will never be successful. If they dream of occupying an inch of our territory, they will reap nothing but annihilation. If they plan to harm the sovereignty of this free, prosperous homeland, they will reap only an abject defeat which history will speak of forever. It is on themselves, then, that the Khomeyniites are incurring harm.

Today's battles prove that the soldiers of justice have relentlessly twisted the necks of the enemies. Our enemy is retreating. It lost and is losing thousands of those whom it collected through trickery or persecution. Meanwhile, our columns are forging their way toward their objectives, guarded by God, cleansing the land of their filth. Valor and audacity are marching along with our columns. The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. The VII Army Corps front:

a. Our forces in the central column began a resolute and crushing attack on enemy positions, penetrating them one after another, purging the land of the filthy enemies, wiping out their remnants, and inflicting massive losses in men, equipment, weapons, and hardware. Our brave forces in this valiant column managed to liberate territory 3 km deep along a 3-km front. Thus, this column is now on the second eastern edge of Mamlaha. This offensive has given this column a distinctive, qualtative combat position. Our forces immediately began to fortify the liberated positions and the situation there was settled in favor of our triumphant forces.

b. Our forces in the valiant southern coastal column mounted a lightning, crushing attack on two axes: the coastal axis and the axis that parallels it. Our brave men in both axes destroyed enemy defenses and penetrated over the bodies of the Khomeyniites there. After the column in the coastal axis had purged territory 1.35 km deep and after the column in the parallel axis had purged 1 km and controlled the front between the two axes, our forces immediately fortified their positions. The situation in this sector was settled in favor of our triumphant forces. Enemy losses opposite this column were very heavy.

c. Our forces in the northern column continued to engage the enemy with heavy fire in order to neutralize it and inflict losses on its forces. God bless you, O brave men, commanders, officers, and other ranks. You rose up to the level and were the sword of justice that is striking at the enemy. Move ahead. May God guide your steps along the path of victory. He is the best supporter and helper.

2. Since dawn today, Iraq's brave eagles have continued their mighty raids and attacks on our enemies, mutilating their remnants, destroying their equipment and arms, chasing them, destroying their supply and communication links. They carried out 363 combat missions today during which they mutilated a large number of the rotten bodies which the Tehran rulers are throwing into the war mill. They also succeeded in striking at major enemy centers in the operational theater and directing destructive strikes at enemy artillery. They again raided most of the bridges which they had previously destroyed in order to prevent the enemy from repairing and reusing them.

While dealing devastating blows to the remnants of aggression, they never take their eyes off the enemy's vital targets. They also managed to achieve the following:

a. They launched a new successful raid on Khark Island at 1505 [1205 GMT] today, accurately hitting their targets and setting them ablaze.

b. At the same time, they launched another raid on a large maritime target near the Iranian coast, hitting it accurately and effectively.

After carrying out their duty, our eagles returned safely and triumphantly to base under God's care and protection. God bless you, O brave eagles. Blessed be your arms, O sons of the best nation.

3. The valiant cavaliers of the helicopter gunships continue to fly over the battlefield and to perform a heroic role in annihilating the forces of the rogues and dropping merciless bombs on their equipment and vehicles. With precise coordination, they are providing excellent support for our brave ground forces. They carried out 207 combat missions today, after which they returned safely and triumphantly to base, praised be God.

4. Our brave Navy, which is guarding Iraq's waters and defending its coasts, today carried out a rare heroic naval operation. It fired its missiles at a bridge in (Ra's Abadan), destroying it. Thus, the brave men of the Navy continue to deliver destructive strikes against enemy transport routes and supply lines, giving new evidence daily of the criminal enemies' defeat by Iraq's power.

5. Our brave units in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah killed 20 enemy troops and destroyed 3 ammunition dumps and 1 observation post. Seven enemy troops were killed and one infantry position and one observation post were destroyed in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan. Two vehicles loaded with ammunition and personnel were set on fire in the northern I Army Corps sector.

6. The criminal enemy shelled the district of Abu al-Khasib with long-range artillery, killing one civilian and damaging one shop.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 22 February 1986

### No 2,126 — 23 Feb

*JN231754 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Communique No 2,126 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 23 February 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The great Iraqi people have proved and are proving through heroic fighting by their sons that they are the force capable of foiling the Zionist conspiracy against their sovereignty, land, and course, a conspiracy which is using the Iranian rulers as its pawns. The Iranian regime has been revealed to the world at large as a regime of terrorists which commits aggression against the territory of others and a regime which is hostile to progress and immersed in agentry.

On the military level, the regime of charlatans has thrown all the riffraff and weapons it possesses into its current aggression. This attempt has been futile and has not attained any of its evil designs. The Khomeyniites' losses are so heavy than they can no longer conceal or replace them. Only a handful of the riff-raff the Tehran rulers have used to desecrate our land remains. This handful is waging a desperate battle while retreating under the hammers of the Iraqis pounding their heads day and night.

The Tehran regime can no longer carry out conspiracies because the prattle of the Iranian rulers cannot be a source of strength and will not save them from any tribulation. They have lost all the assets they had. Their only option now is to admit defeat. This day is close.

The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. On the VII Army Corps front:

Our forces on this front scored a new victory today, inflicting further losses on the enemy to be added to its past heavy losses. Following the achievement our valiant Armed Forces attained in the area of the heroic central column yesterday, and in view of the importance of the area that was purged and its important location, the frustrated enemy tried to approach our liberated positions last night. However, our valiant forces of this column foiled all these attempts and transformed enemy troop concentrations into dust littering the battlefield. The central column launched a lightning offensive against enemy positions this morning, storming them, and purging the land 1.6 deep along a 2-km front. With this offenisve, our men succeeded in controlling an important logistical area, allowing our forces to be in better positions to reach their targets.

In the coastal southern column, and following this heroic column's control of an important area yesterday, the enemy tried to approach our liberated positions in this sector. However, our heroic forces of this column opened fire on enemy units and backed by volleys of our artillery, completely wiped them out. The enemy sustained very heavy losses in front of this column yesterday evening and today.

With respect to the northern column, our forces continued to engage the enemy in battle and to inflict heavy losses on it.

May God bless the men of the VII Army Corps front. Proceed forward to achieve more victories until we purge the last inch of our land of the aggressors' filth.

2. Since early this morning, squadrons of our daring planes have continued violent and destructive raids on the Khomeyniite rogues, their positions, weapons emplacements, and road complexes, inflicting on them the wrath of God and that of the Iraqis. The brave eagles carried out 300 combat missions today during which they sowed death among thousands of enemy troops, leaving them dismembered in the valleys, and destroying large quantities of their equipment, arms, military hardware, and artillery positions. Our brave eagles also carried out a fierce and devastating raid on the Ganaveh oil pipeline intersection at 1540 [1240 GMT] today to prevent the enemy from repairing the facilities in this intersection. After carrying out their duty, our brave eagles safely returned with their planes to the homeland, praise be to God.

Blessed be your hands, O eagles. Blessed be your hands and hand out more blows that will uproot their remnants.

3. All day today, our brave knights of the Army's air corps continued their daring sorties, dealing the most devastating blows to enemy units with their missiles in 247 combat sorties, after which they safely and triumphantly returned to base, praise be to God.

4. Our valiant men of the Navy continue to deprive the enemy of the use of the Arab Gulf waters, dealing destructive blows to its remnants and its naval units.

5. Using artillery, tank fire, and other types of weapons, our forces continue to deal blows to enemy areas opposite their positions. Two tanks and one excavator were destroyed and several enemy troops were killed in the I Army Corps northern sector. Five enemy troops were killed and two ammunition dumps were destroyed in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah. Five rafts were destroyed in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris. Four infantry positions and one medium-caliber machine-gun position were destroyed in the II Army Corps central sector.

An enemy plane, an F-4, tried to penetrate our international borders on the VII Army Corps front. Our ground resistance men in the central column confronted it and shot it down among our units at 1014 today.

May God bless the men of our valiant ground resistance. Let the guns of the men be always raised to achieve more feats.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 23 February 1986

## Support Expressed for King Husayn on Palestine Issue

### House Holds Sesson; Speeches Made

*JN221309 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1200 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] Amman — The House of Representatives held an emergency session at 1030 today to discuss the comprehensive speech which His Majesty King Husayn addressed to the sons of the Arab nation last Wednesday night and in which he reviewed developments in the Palestine issue, Jordan's vision of this question, and the stage it has reached.

Several representatives delivered speeches in which they hailed His Majesty King Husayn and affirmed the absolute support of the sons of the people on both banks for the contents of the king's speech as well as their blessing of the steps taken by his majesty, who has devoted his life to defending the Palestine question in Arab and international forums. They also affirmed their support for the steps taken by His Majesty King Husayn to save the land and the kinfolk, who are suffering from the occupation authorities' measures and plans to annex the land and empty it of its inhabitants. They said that the continuation of the state of no war-no peace causes the loss of peace opportunities and benefits the enemy who seeks to separate the inhabitants from the land. They affirmed the citizens' adherence to the sacred unity of both banks which was founded by their fathers and forefathers. They said that Jordan and Palestine are one country, one homeland, and one people. Those who cast doubt on this unity, they added, will not achieve their designs. They said: The more doubts they cast, the stronger and firmer the unity becomes. They affirmed that the unity of both banks is unity of land, blood, destiny, and future whose foundations were laid by their fathers and forefathers in the [1950] Jericho Conference.

The representatives renewed their pledge, loyalty, and allegiance to His Majesty King Husayn, who has endured hardships for the sake of the Palestine question. They urged His Majesty King Husayn to continue the march in order to save the kinfolk and the homeland and to achieve a just comprehensive settlement of the Palestine question.

### House Issues Support Statement

*JN221620 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1400 GMT 22 Feb 86*

["Text" of statement issued by House of Representatives on 22 February; read in presence of King Husayn at the Royal Hashemite Court in Amman — read by announcer]

[Text] Your Majesty King Husayn, may God support you and guide your steps. We, the representatives of the nation and the one Jordanian people on the two banks of the Kingdom, have the honor to extend to your majesty our greetings, appreciation, and respect coupled with full loyalty to your majesty and your beloved throne.

The representatives of the nation have listened wholeheratedly to your comprehensive, pan-Arab speech addressed to your loyal people and your glorious Arab nation. The speech was characterized by complete frankness and clarity and reveals the facts about the efforts you have exerted for the sake of the central issue, the sacred Palestine question, as well as your painstaking efforts to develop joint actions with the PLO leadership and the political gains you have achieved in the international arena and in world public opinion as a result of your self-esteem and your loyal people's respect for you, as well as your credibility in word and deed.

Your majesty, the representatives of the nation on Jordan's two banks held an emergency meeting this morning to review your speech and to study the subject in the service of the nation, the homeland, and the future of our kinfolk in our occupied land. The representatives of the nation, who have faith in your wise leadership, appreciate the greatness of the responsibility you have assumed since you took office, your constitutional responsibilities, and since you took up the message of your noble, blessed grandfathers who were martyred for the sake of the Palestine question and in defending its Arabism.

Our people absolutely believe in their sacred constitutional unity, which was achieved as a result of the desire of people on both banks and which was endorsed by the parliament of the two banks of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan on 24 April 1950.

Your majesty, during your march with the PLO, you accepted the responsibility and sympathized with the people, who are suffering from the harshness of the occupation in the usurped land, and you tried to achieve the best results. We had hoped that our brothers would face up to their responsibility and the cause in their positions and recognize the dangers of displacement and Judaization against our kinfolk. We were with you on that march as you demonstrated full patience, opened your heart to every opinion and dialogue, and gave close attention to salvation, freedom, stability, and peace for your people, who placed their confidence in your majesty and entrusted you with the tasks of salvation, protection, and stability.

Despite this, we were surprised, to our pain and sorrow, by the obstacles and selfish interests that cut short your good, purposeful endeavors to enable the Palestinian people to gain their rights and to defend this people, who have achieved cohesion and a sacred, ideal unity with their brothers, the Jordanian people. The meaning of that unity took deep roots between the sons of the two banks and formed one cohesive family around your dear beloved throne, a fact that foiled all attempts to harm this sacred unity and that will, God willing, foil every other attempt at present and in the future. The fraternity linking the two banks is not only a result of history, experience, culture, economy, and sociology, but also of their common destiny.

You majesty, the House appreciates the decision of your majesty and the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom to announce, after two long attempts, the inability to continue political coordination with the PLO leadership. We, as representatives of our people on the two banks, announce our absolute support for the decision you and your government have made. We also support your majesty's decision to continue support for the kinfolk in any way you deem appropriate and in accordance with potentials and needs. We renew our pledge to remain as we have always been in Jordan. We will continue to rally around your dearly beloved throne, to be honest to our nation and cause, to support each other, and assume our responsibility for our national, pan-Arab, and fateful duty.

Your majesty, Jordan's role in defending the Palestine question and assuming its responsibilities is a historic one which began with the beginning of the cause long before the creation of the PLO. Jordan's message in defending the Arab cause and in serving its goals and aspirations is also a historic one which began with the creation of Jordan at the beginning of this century, long before the emergence of regional trends, slogans, and interpretations of Arab action and life. As you are the inheritor of the role and the message, the owner of the banner, the defender of the call of your great grandfather the savior, Al-Husayn ibn 'Ali, for the Arabs' unity, freedom, and a better life, and the defender of the call of your grandfather, 'Abdallah ibn al-Husayn, for achieving the unity of the two banks of the river, you will remain the source of hope, aspirations, will, and pride. We on the two banks will remain loyal soldiers and will continue to rally around you. We will make any sacrifice to save our cause from any stalemate, to secure an objective and enlightened move toward peace within the framework of an Arab stand, to concentrate on its positive aspects, and to provide the factors of strength to achieve victory for the cause and transfer the kinfolk from a state of despair and occupation to a state of confidence, freedom, and independence. Your majesty, may God protect you and guide your steps on the way of liberation, unity, and success. May the peace and blessings of God be upon you.

### Senate Issues Statement

*JN231920 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 23 Feb 86*

["Text" of statement issued by Senate on 23 February; read in presence of King Husayn at Royal Hashemite Court in Amman — read by announcer]

[Text] Your Majesty King Husayn, may God support you and guide your steps, Following the convening of its emergency session this morning, the Senate has the honor to extend to your majesty great respect and absolute loyalty coupled with profound appreciation and thanks for the comprehensive pan-Arab speech addressed to your Jordanian-Palestinian family, to your Palestinian brethren everywhere, and to your glorious Arab nation.

As a pioneering leader who does not lie to his kinfolk, you acquainted the people and nation with the facts, events, and developments. You outlined the features of the good efforts you have exerted to achieve a just and comprehenisve peace and to save the kinfolk and sanctities from the claws of the unjust occupation.

We listened to that pan-Arab speech with open minds and hearts, read it several times, and discussed it in order to learn from it. Undoubtedly, this speech will occupy an important position among responsible, genuine historical documents. It will also outline for the citizens the dimensions and meanings of events and will define the landmarks and horizons of the future. Those who have consciences cannot overlook the following facts:

1. The Hashemite leadership has a profound commitment to defend the Palestinian people's rights to their territory and homeland despite heavy sacrifices. This commitment cannot be harmed by supercilious attitudes or one-upmanship.

2. The Palestinian and Jordanian peoples have cohesion in bad and good times. They are cohesive concerning national and pan-Arab security as well as concerning unity of will and joint destiny. This pioneering national unity has the right to remain a pillar for our noble objective and joint effort. It will remain a firm rock on which the waves of division, partition, and fragmentation will founder. Within the framework of this cohesion, the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement will continue to embody the bases governing relations between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples as regards equality of rights and duties in facing the one joint destiny.

3. Jordan insists on persistent action to regain the occupied territories and the Palestinian people's legitimate national rights within the framework of a just and comprehensive peace settlement without separate solutions or the selling out of rights. We will not forget what was mentioned in the decision uniting the two banks about preserving all Arab rights in Palestine and rightfully defending these rights by all legitimate means, as well as not harming a final settlement of the just Palestine question.

4. Jordan is determined to construct an impregnable defensive line that includes rebuilding the Armed Forces, modernizing their weapons, and supplying them with youths in compulsory military service and volunteers in the Popular Army. Jordan will thus become the homeland for the army of the people and for the people who are of the army, thereby bolstering intrinsic power and internal impregnability in order to tenaciously defend the soil of the homeland and all Arab land in the face of any sinful aggression.

5. We greet the steadfastness of our kinfolk who are proudly standing fast on the land of the grandfathers and fathers, who are standing high in the shackles of bondage, and whose steadfastness is a heroic epic in the face of oppression, arbitrary measures, and disavowal of human rights and basic freedoms which all world peoples practice. Moreover, there is a sure commitment to support their steadfastness and facilitate their matters. We look forward to the day when we will see them a free people on their land, secure in their houses, confident of their present and future, and proud of the fruits of their steadfastness and struggle.

Your majesty, you provided a full explanation of what Israel's policy and measures mean in terms of settlements, Judaization, expulsion, as well as attacks on the Holy Places, sanctities, freedoms, and resources, besides the attempts to obliterate the Palestinian identity. You also gave a detailed explanation noting the grave challenges and dangers posed to Jerusalem, to the geographic situation, and to the population in the occupied Arab territories in the event of the no war-no peace situation — a situation that gives Israel an opportunity to separate the people from their land. We are dutybound to move away from this situation, to exert intensified efforts and make continuous moves which result in returning the land and legitimate rights to their owners.

Under the current Arab circumstances, your majesty has been able to visualize available potentials and promising ways to liberate the land, the kinfolk, and the sanctities through a UN-sponsored international conference to be attended by the Security Council permanent member states, by all parties involved in the dispute, and by the PLO on an equal footing with the other parties, considering that it is the party entitled to talk about the most important and most serious dimension in the Middle East crisis — the Palestinian dimension. During the conference, Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 should be implemented in letter and spirit on the basis of an Israeli withdrawal from the occupied land in return for peace.

As you continued your efforts to secure the necessary consensus for convening this conference, your chief concern centered on ways to entrench the PLO's role in achieving a just and lasting peace and to portray the PLO in official symposiums and international forums as a responsible body that is willing to exert efforts to achieve peace just as other peace-loving forces are doing. Your majesty has exerted extraordinary efforts to secure international support for the conference and for the PLO and its right to attend it on equal footing with the others in order to defend the Palestinian people's rights, particularly their right to self-determination.

As your majesty made clear, there was coordination with the PLO leadership at every stage and in every step. There was a deep analysis of every text and every expression of views or reactions with the aim of convening an effective international conference and paving the way for PLO participation in it.

You frequently overcame difficulties in favor of this aim; but the PLO mixed its views of the issue of withdrawal from the occupied territories and the issue of legitimate Palestinian rights. The PLO believes that it is both the land and the rights. Although the PLO had agreed with the Jordanian leadership on an appropriate formula for a joint political move within the Arab framework, it retreated from the agreement. It is noteworthy here to refer to the failure of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation's mission in London in 1985 — that failure which Yasir 'Arafat called a tragedy that should not be repeated. We are most displeased by the recurrence of the change of positions, the violation of promises and pledges, and the series of acceptances and rejections time and again.

Those far and near have sensed your majesty's personal suffering and your deep sorrow as you found out that those painstaking efforts did not yield fruits and the opportunities were not seized, contrary to our wishes. Therefore, you have decided to stop political coordination with the PLO leadership until its word becomes its bond in terms of commitment, credibility, and firmness.

The Senate considers this regrettable result that followed severe suffering and exhaustion as a logical end dictated by the facts of the situation and the ways of dealing with it. It is this leadership's duty to go back to the Palestinian brothers everywhere to study their positions, to assess their performance, and to rise above personal considerations to the level of the sacred cause, which cannot undergo further delay, hesitation, and lost opportunities. We believe that the Palestinian people will rearrange their priorities and consider the liberation of the land, the kinfolk, and the sanctities from the yoke of occupation as their top priority.

Your majesty, in light of the facts of this comprehensive pan-Arab statement, the Senate fully supports your wise policy and backs your inspired leadership in order to serve Palestine and to seek freedom, unity, and better life for us and for the Arabs. May God grant you success, guide your steps, give you victory, and support you. May the peace and blessings of God be upon you.

### PLA Commander Delivers Address

*JN211403 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1200 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn met at the Royal Hashemite Court today with the Palestine Liberation Army [PLA] commander and officers in Jordan who came to express their support for his majesty's pan-Arab line and for the political course his majesty explained in his comprehensive pan-Arab address. Na'im al-Khatib, commander of the PLA forces in Jordan, delivered a speech. He said: With amity, pride, appreciation, and support, in my name and on behalf of all PLA forces in Jordan — officers, NCO's, and soldiers — we extend to your majesty our best greetings and wish your majesty welfare and success. May God's protection preserve you and may God guide your steps to promote this nation's glory and to build the edifice of its pride and progress. This nation has been great since the light of guidance illuminated the world with the message of the Prophet Muhammad. God bless him and grant your great grandfather salvation.

Greeting your majesty with amity and appreciation, we recall your majesty's favors for the Badr Forces, which gained your patronage and support in the hard times they experienced. Moreover, you extended material and moral support until they managed to proceed on their way and remained proud, like this country, under your wise leadership. I, together with my brother officers, recall the assistance and military support we received when there was an urgent need for supporting our brethren in Lebanon. The Badr Forces were the vanguard of the backing forces. Recalling this venerable stand, I also recall the care and support extended to me, as well as the weapons, munition, and equipment you extended to us, which we needed and which were extended to us on your majesty's orders.

Soldiers from these forces fell martyrs on Lebanese territory in defense of the Palestinian revolution and the honorable brethren in Lebanon. We recall and have pride in your majesty's words when you received the forces returning from Lebanon, which healed our wounds. You hailed the heroism of these forces and asked God to have mercy on their martyrs. Moreover, you extended material support for all personnel of these forces whether alive or martyred.

Your majesty, we listened with great interest to your majesty's comprehensive address that contained great facts and several issues which should be carefully considered. These facts and issues were full of useful experience gained by your majesty which has made you an example of a pioneering leader who is sincere and honest.

Your majesty, at this blessed moment, I wish to stress the following matters:

1. We say publicly that we believe that the unity of the two banks is an existing sacred unity and that no one has the right to harm or object to it, because it is a unity of blood, objective, and fate.

As your majesty has said, the sons of the two banks who established and participated in laying its foundation all these years maintained this unity, of which we are proud. My Lord, they did not allow or enable anybody, whoever he is, to split this sacred, strong unity. Any call of this kind is suspect and serves the Zionist enemy only.

2. We believe that the Armed Forces and the Badr Forces are the same and have the same objectives. As your majesty has said, the Jordanian Armed Forces are the shield and protector of this homeland and nation. We know that your majesty agrees that the Badr Forces are among the units you mean. The best proof of that is the support and backing these forces receive in Jordan.

3. Hearing your majesty's speech on the hard and gruelling march you had taken throughout all these long years, particularly last year, we believe in your sincere efforts. This is not unusual for your majesty because you carry the banner carried by your grandfather, Al-Husayn ibn 'Ali. May God have mercy on him, the leader of the great Arab revolt, who sacrificed all in defense for the Palestinian Arab people's rights. The Palestinian revolution is indeed an extension of the great Arab revolt.

4. We are with you in greeting the steadfast, proud kinfolk who are under the yoke of captivity, who stand fast on the ancestors' land. We consider your majesty's pledge to them a pledge of honesty, love, and sincerity.

We appeal to our brother Arabs to share this position, to act according to what is included in your speech, to support and back the kinfolk in occupied Paelstine, to offer all that is necessitated by the national duty toward them, and to provide material support for the valiant Jordanian Armed Forces.

We appreciate your pan-Arab and national stands, as well as your contribution to all Arab and Islamic causes. May God protect and preserve you.

King Husayn thanked the PLA commander and officers, saying: I truely thank you in this home which is your own home. The Badr Froces are part of us despite all circumstances. Most proudly, I greet this spirit.

Be certain that we have always considered your fate our own fate and your objective our objective. I beseach God to help us to work together to work to rescue the land, kinfolk, and rights for the sake of coming generations' dignity. It is one march, one objective, and one end. It is God who protects our march. My greetings to all the kinfolk.

The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i and Staff General al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces.

### West Bank Representatives Stress Support

*JN220942 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 22 Feb 86 p 1*

[Excerpts] Amman — The West Bank representatives held a meeting at the Parliament building yesterday evening in the presence of House Speaker 'Akif al-Fayiz and Dr Sami Judah, minister of state for parliamentary affairs. The conferees reviewed the contents of the comprehensive national speech delivered by His Majesty King Husayn dealing with the developments in the Palestinian issue and the halting of political coordination with the PLO.

The representatives stressed their adherence to King Husayn's wise leadership and the unity of the two banks to confront the dangers and challenges. They also praised the efforts by his majesty the leader to liberate the territory and find a just and permanent solution to the issue of our people in the occupied territory.

### Palestine Committee Sends Cable

*JN221345 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1200 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] The higher Arab Committee for Palestine held a meeting today during which it considered the historic address His Majesty King Husayn delivered last Wednesday evening. After the meeting, the committee sent a cable to His Majesty King Husayn supporting every word mentioned in the address, which will be added to the documents and history of the noble, blessed Hashemite family. The cable said: O Husayn, you will remain a carrier of the banner of right as well as the message of your forefathers who sought the hereafter and the testimony of history and generations. Renewing the pledge of allegiance to the sponsor of the march, the higher Arab Committee for Palestine in Jordan loudly says: O Husayn, proceed with God's blessings. May God protect you while your faithful people are praying for you and proceeding under your Hashemite leadership.

In its cable, the committee emphasized its adherence to the unity of the two banks, which should be a good nucleus for the unity of the Arab nation. The committee also emphasized its adherence to the decision of the people on both banks and to the Jordanian Constitution that unified the two banks of the Jordan, as well as its adherence to the Jordanian Parliament's decision preserving the Palestinian people's national rights.

The committee expressed its profound thanks and great gratitude to His Majesty King Husayn for the sincere efforts he has exerted and for his persistent endeavors in the service of Palestine —land, people, and sanctities.

### Fatah Movement Shows Suppport

*JN221507 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1408 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] This afternoon, His Majesty King Husayn met at the Royal Hashemite Court with officers, NCO's, and fighters of Al-Karamah Camp, which belongs to the Fatah movement in Jordan.

Dr Lieutenant Colonel Jibril Shalash delivered a speech in the name of these forces. He said: We support what was mentioned in your comprehensive pan-Arab address about the unity of the two peoples, as well as your efforts to save the land and kinfolk from the claws of the Zionist occupation. He said: We heard of the persistent action mentioned in your royal address taken for the sake of liberating the land and kinfolk, as well as the great and honorable efforts you exerted for this noble objective, to which our people inside and outside the occupied homeland aspire. Permit us, your majesty, to stress the following facts:

First, the unity of the two banks and that of the Palestinian and Jordanian people are historical, fateful, and sacred unities. We support every step aimed at regaining our people's legitimate national rights.

Second, we declare our support for and adherence to the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement that embodies the bases of the historic relationship between both peoples. We appeal to you, your majesty, to keep this agreement a groundwork which governs our relations.

He expressed Al-Karamah Forces' appreciation for His Majesty King Husayn and their pride in his efforts to reach the joint objective in the interest of both fraternal peoples.

## Husayn Responds to Government Support Statements

### Addresses House

*JN221658 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1600 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Report on King Husayn's reply to 22 February statement by House of Representatives]

[Text] I thank you and deeply appreciate the results of the dialogue held by the brothers and representatives of the people, today. I sensed the burden of responsibility, and it was my duty to reveal the facts to all members of the one big Palestinian-Jordanian family and of the one march because these facts affect every one of us here, in the occupied land, and elsewhere.

His majesty also affirmed: We will not try to be an alternative to our Palestinian brothers. We will not stand in the way they select. We will continue to support them because we have a common destiny and goal. We pray to God that, as a result of the dialogue that will certainly continue in the Arab, Jordanian, and Palestinian arenas, we can crystallize a position that will enable us to save the kinfolk, the land, and the sanctities.

### Addresses Senate

*JN231937 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1600 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Report on King Husayn's reply to 23 February statement by the Senate; delivered in the Royal Hashemite Court —read by announcer]

[Text] I would like to express my thanks and deep appreciation to the brothers of the long march. The esteemed Senate's comment on what has taken place dots the I's regarding all developments and all of what we as Palestinians and Jordanians, along with the entire Arab nation, are confronting in terms of responsibilities under these circumstances.

I hope this paves the way for a constructive dialogue on the Jordanian and Palestinian levels to confront fateful challenges and dangers that are well known to everyone. I also hope that, as a result of this, a stand will be finalized in which we can respond to the challenge to perform our duty in order to save our kinfolk, the land, and the Holy Places. This is our destiny and our road.

## AL-RA'Y on Interpretations of Husayn Speech

*JN220926 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 22 Feb 86 pp 1, 28*

[Editorial: "Assertion of the pan-Arab Strategy"]

[Text] While His Majesty King Husayn's speech is being thoroughly studied in world capitals and while the speech is receiving a positive understanding and real interest in Arab circles as a frank speech addressed to the nation to allow the Palestinian and Arab rostrums to examine the course and intricacies of the most recent political move by Jordan and the PLO, Western news agencies and U.S. circles portray the Jordanian decision to suspend political coordination with the PLO leadership as an estrangement between the two sides and an Arab difference that has thrown the ball into our court. Israel also, as usual, directed poisonous arrows at Jordan when it claimed that the Jordanian decision will help clear the atmosphere and reinforce the Israeli stand.

The fact is that all these explanations are based on a shortsighted view or on bad intentions. The Jordanian decision cannot be read separately from the speech, but rather must be read as an integral part of it. A fair reading of the speech, which asserts the common destiny of the Jordanians and Palestinians, reinforces the conviction that suspending political coordination with the PLO does not at all mean a Jordanian-Palestinian estrangement or an Arab difference that has thrown the ball back to the Arab court. The ball remains in the Israeli court as a result of Israel's insistence on not recognizing the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. Consequently, the frankness that was presented in the speech to the Jordanians, Palestinians, and Arabs cannot be described as an announcement of alienation or as an admission that the ball is in our court. In fact, the speech is a pan-Arab call to all to understand the Jordanian view of the Palestinian issue and to look for the features of the road they want to follow.

The Israeli claim that the Jordanian decision will help clear the atmosphere is aimed at harming the frankness that appeared in the speech and at showing that the decision reinforces the Israeli rejection of the PLO. These two aims are false and result from the hostile Israeli policy. The atmosphere is still clouded with the Israeli threats aimed at usurping the Palestinian territory and at removing the Palestinian people from it as well as at maintaining the state of no peace-no war in the region. The Israeli behavior and objectives have always made the atmosphere gloomy.

The Jordanian decision does not put an end to Jordan's condemnation of the intransigent Israeli stand. The suspension of political coordination between Jordan and the PLO does not mean agreeing upon the aggressive Israeli stand. The decision is an Arab affair to give the rest of the Arab parties an opportunity to study the details and intricacies of the political move which has not borne any fruit and to crystallize a clear view of the future.

The sides and circles that try to explain the comprehensive national speech in which King Husayn was frank to the Arab nation cannot cast doubt on the pan-Arab commitment Jordan adheres to —the commitment which bypasses the slogans to action. This commitment cannot be encroached upon by shortsighted or tendentious explanations, particularly since Jordan has asserted more than once that it will not enter unilateral negotiations with Israel.

King Husayn's speech is a reiteration of Jordan's commitment to the pan-Arab strategy which Jordan believes in. The speech is a bright example of democratic frankness between the leader and the nation. The aggressors and biased individuals cannot succeed in denigrating the Jordanian decision.

## AL-DUSTUR Interviews Visiting PDRY Minister

*JN210954 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 21 Feb 86 pp 24, 21*

[By Hamdan al-Haj]

[Excerpts] Amman — PDRY Justice and Awqaf Minister 'Abd al-Wasi' Ahmad Sallam has described his meeting with His Majesty King Husayn yesterday as positive and very fruitful. He said: We sensed a great understanding by his majesty of the PDRY situation. His majesty expressed his grave pain at what took place there and stressed the Kingdom's eagerness to promote and bolster relations between the two fraternal countries as this comes within the framework of the Kingdom's policy which is eager to cooperate with the entire Arab world.

Asked about the threats made by the previous president, Sallam said: If he has forces with which he can make threats and carry out his conspiracy, then why has he not yet carried it out and why did he not stand fast in the fight? He added that Arab leaders are now being put in the picture of what really happened in the PDRY.

Asked about 'Ali Nasir's future, Sallam said that he is wanted by the legal authorities and that the competent authorities are preparing a special file on the crimes which he and his supporters committed so they may be brought to justice.

Asked about PDRY policy under the new regime, Sallam said that the foreign policy remains unchanged because it was drawn up in party documents and implemented by the government and, therefore, it will not change. This policy is based on peaceful co-existence, which means establishing balanced relations with all regimes no matter how different they are. He added: We are eager to stress this to Arab brethren and our delegations are explaining this stand and stressing our eagerness for Arab solidarity. Sallam appealed to the Arab world to understand the PDRY's difficult situation and to extend aid to the PDRY.

Regarding damage resulting from the events, Sallam said it was great in the economic and social fields and that great damage was also done to buildings and to part of the Armed Forces, adding that among those who fell were the elite of the PDRY party and government.

## Al-Jumayyil Returns From Trip to Europe, Morocco

*NC221738 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon*
*in Arabic 1545 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil returned to Beirut at 1530 today following his visit to Paris, the Vatican, and Morocco.

## Suslikov Meets Al-Jumayyil, Voices Soviet Support

*NC241023 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1000 GMT 24 Feb 86*

[Text] Yuriy Suslikov, Soviet charge d'affaires in Lebanon, met with President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil today and briefed him on the Soviet answer to the proposals that the president presented on 10 February. Suslikov reiterated Soviet support for Lebanon and its people regarding southern Lebanon and the Israeli attacks on it.

## Junblatt on Kidnappings, Security Measures in Beirut

*NC221638 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain*
*in Arabic to Lebanon 1400 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] All aspects of current developments in Lebanon and the ways to confront events in the next stage were discussed during a national conference held in the house of Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt at noon today. Nabih Birri, Munir Abu Fadil, Marwan Hamadah, George Hawi, 'Asim Qansuh, 'Abdallah Sa'adah, 'Umar Harb, Samir Sabbagh, Munir al-Sayyad, Akram Shuhayyib, Shakir al-Barjawi, 'Adnan 'Aytani, Haytham Jum'ah, and 'Aql Hamiyyah also attended the session. A delegation from the National Palestinian Salvation Front, which included Salah Salah, Abu Khalid al-Shamal, Abu 'Ali Mahdi Busaysu, and 'Ali 'Aziz, participated in the conference as well.

Following the conclusion of the meeting at 1520, Walid Junblatt said: In light of the hostile activities perpetrated by the Israelis and the Phalangists, it was necessary for the effective national and nationalist forces to meet in order to propose ideas on how to confront them, whether they take place in the south or anywhere else. These forces are anxious that this meeting lead to practical steps in Beirut, where certain armed elements have indiscriminately reopened some offices. There are daily complaints by citizens. Muslim, Christian, and Jewish citizens are being kidnapped. This is not only a moral disgrace, it is also a violation of the rights of all our honorable people.

Walid Junblatt added: We met as Lebanese and Palestinian national forces. We intend to meet regularly in order to deal with mutual issues and to formulate a clear idea of what present and future Palestinian-Lebanese relations should be. Responding to a question, Walid Junblatt stated: The results of this meeting must be translated into executive measures, whether these be taken at the level of the special party force or the legitimate strike force. The latter should be revived if it has begun to fade under present circumstances and given a role to play.

When asked how he would deal with those organizations not participating in the Coordination Committee, Junblatt replied: We want to deal with all organizations and to draw them into our ranks politically and militarily. If there are some organizations that do not wish to participate, then we will undertake a dialogue with them. It is impossible that a number of national projects should exist which are contradictory and in conflict while adhering to the same slogans.

Replying to a question on what he had to say about the situation in the south, Junblatt said: If we do not succeed in Beirut, then the south will definitely fall.

## Junblatt Leaves for CPSU Congress

*NC240658 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain*
*in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 24 Feb 86*

[Text] Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP], has departed for Moscow to attend the 27th congress of the CPSU. Junblatt is scheduled to meet with a number of Soviet leaders to discuss the latest developments in the region in general, and those in Lebanon in particular. Akram Shuhayyib, member of the PSP political bureau, is accompanying junblatt on his visit.

Junblatt held a series of meetings in Damascus yesterday. He met with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and discussed the formation of a nationalist leadership coordinated with the Palestine National Salvation Front. The latest domestic developments were also considered during the meeting.

## Lebanese, Palestinian Groups Discuss Relations

*GF231112 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic*
*0930 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] The newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* quotes a leading Lebanese source as saying that the Lebanese-Palestinian Coordination Committee, which was proclaimed yesterday, will begin meetings early next week to establish the basis and organization of the new political leadership which has been formed. The source added that committees will be established in this regard to handle work in the political, military, social, economic, and information fields in order to consolidate national Lebanese-Palestinian action, to enhance its basis, and to outline the image of the move during the next stage according to the political concept to be followed. All have affirmed that this policy will adhere to the national line. The sources said that the organization of political steps to enhance relations among the powers in western Beirut will consolidate the national struggle in southern Lebanon.

*AL-ITTIHAD* adds that during the meeting between the Lebanese National Unity Front and the Palestinian Salvation Front, the need to enhance the unity of Lebanese-Palestinian relations was expressed in order to confront developments in the upcoming stage and the dangers facing both the Lebanese and Palestinian forces. Quoting sources at the meeting, the newspaper adds that the participants of the meeting agreed to intensify their efforts, especially during this stage when the south is facing new Israeli aggression.

### Nasirite Organization Official Assassinated

*NC240935 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic*
*0915 GMT 24 Feb 86*

[Text] Gunmen assassinated 'Isam al-'Arab [secretary general of the Nasirite Organization in Lebanon-Nasir Forces] in the Tariq al-Jadidah area at 1030 today. Civil defense teams have taken his body to the Al-Barbir Hospital.

### Car Bomb Kills 5, Wounds 12; Second Bomb Defused

*NC240859 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic*
*0847 GMT 24 Feb 86*

[Text] We have just received the following report from our newsdesk: We have been informed that the booby-trapped car that exploded was a blue Honda. Five people have been killed and 12 others wounded as a result of the blast. According to a security source, sappers were able to defuse a second explosive charge. We would like to inform you that students at the Lebanese Academy for Fine Arts are all safe.

#### Further Details

*NC241046 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic*
*1015 GMT 24 Feb 86*

[Excerpts] Five people were killed and several others wounded when a booby-trapped car, which had been parked at the Al-Salumi circle by criminal hands, exploded. Chief Warrant Officer Yusuf Bitar, a military expert on bombs, has revealed that the explosive charge weighed 50 kg. However, only 30 kg actually exploded. The remaining 20 kg have been defused. M-46 Soviet mines, each weighing 6.5 kg, have also been defused, he added. The charge was connected to mortar shells, he explained, but sappers were able to defuse them. According to an eyewitness, a 20-year-old man parked the car and then left in a hurry.

### Two Israeli Soldiers Reportedly Moved From South

*NC211526 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1500 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Excerpt] The Islamic Resistance Front in Beirut has announced that it has transferred the two kidnapped Israeli soldiers to a secure place outside southern Lebanon.

#### Photos of Israelis Published

*HK220552 Hong Kong AFP in English*
*0517 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] Beirut, Feb 22 (AFP) — The weekly newspaper of the pro-Iranian Hizballah (God's party) published a photo here Friday of the two Israeli soldiers captured last Monday with details about their capture. The two prisoners were shown receiving blood transfusions on cots with white sheets. The caption said: "The two Israeli prisoners before the execution of one of them."

The Islamic Resistance movement announced Wednesday night that one of the hostages was killed after the expiration of the movement's ultimatum for Israeli troops to withdraw from the southern Lebanese villages they have been searching since Monday in a hunt for the two captives. There has been no proof yet that the hostage was actually killed.

An article by one of the commandos who captured the pair said preparations for the attack included a 35-day suveillance of Israeli movements in the zone just north of the Israeli border. "We fired a rocket at the first car in the three-car convoy" and then fired automatic weapons, wrote the commando member, who used the signature "jihad" (holy war). The first car's driver begged to be spared, shouting that he was a Shia Moslem.

### Islamic Group, Security Police Compete for Control

*NC211600 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic*
*1515 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] Our correspondent in Sidon has reported that security police and members of the Muslim Brotherhood, led by Shaykh Salah al-Din Arqahdan, are on the verge of a confrontation as the result of their competition to control the Islamic area. The Islamic Group is demanding the right to open new offices in order to participate with security police in operations to gain control. Our correspondent adds that a clash erupted today between the two sides, during which one person was wounded.

The Islamic Group is taking advantage of Israeli combing operations in the south to strengthen its positions in towns and cities there under the pretext of resisting the occupation.

### Iranian Envoy Inspects Southern Villages

*NC211858 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic*
*1715 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] (Mahmud Nourani), the Iranian carge d'affairs in Beirut, has inspected several frontline villages in the Al-Nabatiyah and Tyre areas. He said: We have come to convey to you the greetings of your brothers, the mujahidin, in Iran. The Iranian mujahidin are not only fighting against the Iraqi regime but against international arrogance as well. They are fighting in defense of Islam, and they send you their regards. (Nourani) affirmed that the conflicts in Iran and southern Lebanon are between the forces of good and evil.

### Further Reportage on Israeli Military Action in South

#### Israelis Dismantling Headquarters

*NC211444 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1400 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] According to the latest reports from the south, Israeli forces are dismantling their command headquarters in Burj Qallawiyah-al-Ghanduriyah. The Lahd militias are also withdrawing a total of 25 vehicles from the same position. Enemy helicopters have combed Kafr Dunin, Al-Shihabiyah, and Bi'r al-Salasil. Tanks were observed moving from Dayr Kifa to Bi'r al-Salasil at 1445. Enemy helicopters flew over Kafra, Yatir, and Haris at 1500.

### Occupation 'Scaled Down'

*NC212041 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic*
*2000 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] According to the latest reports from the south, the Israeli operation there is being scaled down. Several Israeli vehicles carrying a large number of soldiers who had entered the liberated areas 5 days ago were seen withdrawing into the occupied land. A decrease in the intensity of Israeli practices in the south has also been observed. Reports indicate that Major General Gholani, who was behind the implementation of an ironfisted policy in seven villages last year, has returned to the occupied land. The Israeli Forces have also withdrawn from Shaqrah to the town's outskirts. A portion of these forces has moved back into the occupied land.

### Withdrawal Reported

*NC221739 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1630 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Excerpt] Enemy vehicles this afternoon assembled near Qa'Qa'iyat al-Jisr Bridge, then withdrew toward Tallat al-Shumariyah. Near Frun, other vehicles also assembled and withdrew in the direction of Al-Qantarah. Several Buses, believed to be carrying the civilian prisoners from villages, were seen.

According to security reports from the south, the Israeli Army forces were spotted this afternoon evacuating the invaded area along four routes: Toward the villages of Haris, Sribbin, and Bayt Lif; toward Qa'Qa'iyat al-Jisr, Al-Ghanduriyah, Frun, and the border; toward the villages of Tibnin and Bayt Yahun; and toward Bi'r al-Salasil, Shaqra, and Bra'shit. The occupation forces reportedly have withdrawn from Frun and Qallawiyah.

According to a report received at 1800 today, Yatar is coming under fire from Merkava tanks. Helicopters are firing Milan missiles at the village and its suburbs.

## Further Reports on Fighting in South

### Lahd, Amal Clashes

*NC221049 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1000 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] Our correspondent in the south reports that the villages of Jba', 'Ayn Biswar, and Jarju' have been coming under heavy mortar and machinegun fire from positions held by agent Lahd's militiamen in Jabal Safi since 1030 today. The enemy employed Merkava tanks in a later 2-hour bombardment of Yatar. In the meantime, Israeli helicopters have searched the area.

Violent fighting in which various types of rockets and other weapons were used broke out this morning between Israeli enemy forces and Amal members in Kafr Rumman.

An Amal unit on patrol near some occupation forces positions in Kafr Rumman was ambushed at 0245 today. A 15-minute clash ensued, resulting in casualties among those who had sprung the trap. One Amal member was wounded and taken to a hospital.

At 0615, a squad from the National Resistance fired four rockets at posts held by agent Lahd's forces. The first rocket struck a position belonging to agent Lahd in 'Ayn Ibil, while the second fell in Al-Quzah. The other two rockets landed on the Qiryat Shemona settlement in the occupied Arab territories.

### Birri Says Commander Killed

*NC221612 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1500 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Excerpts] Nabih Birri, minister of state for the south and reconstruction affairs and leader of the Amal Movement, has announced to the Lebanese people and the Islamic nation the martyrdom of Zuhayr Shahadah, the commander of the faithful resistance in the south. Minister Birri said:

[Begin recording] On behalf of myself and the Amal Movement, I announce to our great people the martyrdom of Zuhayr Shahadah, the commander of the faithful resistance and a devoted member of the Amal Movement, and his two martyr brothers Muhammad al-Dirani and Ibrahim Farhat. They died in defense of the dignity of the nation, the honor of the homeland, and the glory of the south while directing and executing operations in Dayr Nar against the invaders and occupiers. Peace be upon you. [end recording]

### Amal Attacks Lahd Position

*NC221919 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1800 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] At 1720 today, a group of the Lebanese Resistance Battalions-AMAL [Arabic acronym for afwaj muqawamah lubnaniyah, which translates as Lebanese Resistance Battalions] attacked an agent Lahd position on Kafra hill, using rockets and automatic weapons. Amal scored a direct hit on the position, knocking out a 12.7-mm machinegun emplacement and a Centurion tank, which caught fire. The number of Lahd casualties could not be determined because of the heavy machinegun fire in the wake of this operation. At 1745 today, a Merkava tank shelled the surrounding area.

### Lahd Roadblock Attacked

*NC231438 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1400 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Excerpt] The Islamic Resistance has carried out another operation against a roadblock held by agent Lahd's militiamen near the town of (Al-Sarirah) in the Western Al-Biqa'. All the soldiers were either killed or wounded. Enemy tanks stationed on the (Al-Ahmadiyah) Hills then shelled the area near the Dallafah Bridge. The Israeli enemy forces also bombarded Mashgharah Mountain from positions in Al-Rayhan, and their fire reached the outskirts of 'Ayn al-Tinah.

### Resistance Launches Operations

*NC231603 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] National Resistance fighters today carried out a series of operations inside the border strip. They fired on the Marj 'Uyun barracks and used rockets against Metulla. The Al-Malak al-Tahir group claimed responsibility for shelling an occupation forces' position on the Iskandarunah-al-Bayyadah road in the Al-Naqurah area.

Israeli enemy aircraft flew over Sidon and other southern areas today. Enemy vessels continued to blockade the Ports of Sidon and Tyre. The enemy gunboats preventing ships from entering or leaving Sidon Port are in Lebanese territorial waters.

### Resistance Hits Israeli Patrol

*NC231921 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] In the south, the Martyr Khalil Ibrahim group of the faithful National Resistance attacked an enemy patrol on the Bra'shit-Bayt Yahun road at 0530 today, using automatic weapons and rockets. Two enemy vehicles were destroyed and a number of Israeli soldiers were killed or wounded in this attack. The group returned safely to base.

## Further on Amal, Hizballah, Communist Clashes

### Amal Cited in Communist's Death

*NC220852 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] Informed sources in the Communist Party have told the Voice of Lebanon that the party's security forces have uncovered some details concerning the assassination of Khalil Na'us, the official responsible for the West Beirut branch of the Lebanese Communist Party. These sources have announced that the assassin was a man named 'Azzam, a follower of Abu Khadir Majid, who takes orders from Qabalan Qabalan, the chief of Amal's security service in West Beirut. He was riding on a motorbike with 'Ali Farhat.

These sources also said that 'Ali Jazzini and Abu Jamal supervised the training of those involved and the execution of the operation. They were working with another group that facilitated the assassin's escape aboard a motorbike at the Abu Haydar intersection.

### Communists Deny Amal Involved

*NC221321 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] An informed source in the Lebanese Communist Party has denied what the Phalangist media have described as details regarding the criminal assassination of Khalil Na'us, a member of the Communist Party Central Committee. The media claimed to have obtained these details from informed sources in the Communist Party. The responsible official stated that the report broadcast by the Phalangist Voice of Lebanon radio on the identity of Khalil Na'us' assassin is completely false. This story is one more example of the tendentious rumors customarily broadcast by that radio. We wish to make it clear that no one inside the Communist Party has contacted that station.

### Amal, Communists Clash

*NC231928 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] Since 2030 tonight, clashes between the Amal Movement and the Communist Party have been raging in many West Beirut areas, particularly in Al-Musaytibah, Burj al-Barajinah, Barbur, Corniche al-Mazra'ah, the Cola Circle, and the vicinity of the Soviet Embassy. Rockets and machineguns are being used in the fighting. The Communist Party had earlier asked the Amal Movement to release 15 Communist Party members who are still being held in the south.

### Hizballah, Communists Clash

*NC232113 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] Hizballah and the communists continue to clash with the Amal Movement in the Corniche al-Mazra'ah area. The fighting began when a Land Rover carrying Hizballah and communist personnel was ambushed in Corniche al-Mazra'ah. Two people were killed and three others were wounded.

Hizballah and Amal have also joined forces against the communists in Burj Abu Haydar, 'A'ishah Bakkar, the vicinity of the Iranian Embassy, and on Cola Bridge. The clashes involve heavy- and medium-caliber weapons. Military concentrations have been sighted near the Beirut hospital.

Junblatt's party has put its members in West Beirut on alert, with the understanding that they will intervene only after receiving direct orders from their command in the mountain. However, we were informed a few moments ago that Junblatt's forces have joined Hizballah in the battles in West Beirut.

Violent clashes, using rockets, artillery, and machineguns, have been continuing between Kafr Shima and Al-Shuwayfat. Shells have been falling sporadically on the outskirts of Al-Hadath and B'abda.

Acute tension prevails in Burj al-Barajinah camp, where clashes have taken place between Amal and the Palestinians. These clashes caused the internal security personnel to withdraw from the area.

### 1 Killed in Attack

*HK240024 Hong Kong AFP in English 0010 GMT 24 Feb 86*

[Text] Beirut, Feb 24 (AFP) — A Shia Muslim fundamentalist was killed and three others wounded Sunday night in fierce clashes with members of the Lebanese Communist Party (LCP) in West Beirut. Meanwhile heavy artillery duels were reported Sunday evening on the Christian-Muslim demarcation line in the southern suburbs. Police said two ceasefires set up by the four-party security committee made up of the army that Druze, Christian and Shiite militias had failed to hold.

According to the Hizballah (Party of God), its four fundamentalist militants were shot when their car came under fire as the drove past a communist office in the Bourj Abi Haidar district near the Iranian Embassy. The incident blew up into in artillery duel in which auoomatic weapons and anti-tank rockets came into play. Police said the Iranian chancellery had been hit by several rockets.

Efforts to arrange a ceasefire were being undertaken by the multi-faction West Beirut corrdination committee and a "combined force" of Druze-Shiite militiamen aided by Syrian observers was deployed in the Abi Haidar area.

### Hizballah Abducts Communist

*NC240744 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic*
*0715 GMT 24 Feb 86*

[Text] According to Communist Party sources, Hizballah gunmen tried to kidnap Suhayl Tawilah, Communist Party Central Committee member and editor-in-chief of the newspaper *AL-TARIQ*, at 2230 last night. Tawilah lives in a building adjacent to the Iranian Embassy. However, residents in the area aborted the abduction attempt. Nevertheless, Hizballah gunmen made a second attempt to kidnap Tawilah at 2300. This time they successfully abducted him at gunpoint, and left for an unknown destination.

### Hizballah Raids Communist Homes

*NC241409 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic*
*1145 GMT 24 Feb 86*

[Text] According to reports we have received, Hizballah members cut the road leading from the Iranian Embassy circle to Corniche al-Mazra'ah at approximately 1200 today. Communist gunmen had earlier fired at this embassy after kidnapping some Hizballah members.

Hizballah supporters have also raided homes belonging to Communists in the Riyad al-Sulh and Al-'Azariyah areas. They set up roadblocks to check the identity of pedestrians. Other Hizballah members have arrested some Communists who were inside a car parked under the Al-Barbir bridge.

It has been reported that the Socialist Progressive Party has ordered its members in the striking force to protect Communist Party centers and to repel any attempt made to enter the communist center near the Al-Sharq movie theater. Hizballah members had tried to raid this center this morning. According to security sources, Hizballah supporters raided the Communist Party center on 'Umar Ibn al-Khattab Street in the Ra's al-Nab' area and then set it on fire. Other Hizballah groups raided houses belonging to Communists in this area and destroyed their contents.

Extreme tension prevailed in the Al-Barbir and Al-Bastah areas this morning. Hizballah gunmen have appeared in large numbers in these places.

Intermittent clashes resumed between Hizballah and Communist gunmen in the Burj Abu Haydar area at approximately 0700 this morning. Security sources reported chases and raids by both sides in this area. A large number of people were observed to be leaving.

### Kidnapped Communist's Body Found

*NC241420 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1400 GMT 24 Feb 86*

[Text] It has transpired that a body discovered in the Normandy area this morning is that of Suhayl Tawilah, editor-in-chief of the newspaper *AL-TARIQ* and Communist Party Central Committee member. The 45-year-old Tawilah had been kidnapped from his home at 2300 last night.

### Fighting Reported in Al-Matn, Beirut, Mountain

*NC221307 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic*
*1145 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] There has been intermittent fighting since noon today along the Al-'Ayrun-al-Dawwar-Tallat Tamraj combat line. The clashes occurred after the Lebanese Army frustrated an attempted infiltration by gunmen from the Syrian Social Nationalist Party the Progressive Socialist Party. The attackers suffered a number of casualties.

The security situation in the capital and its southern suburb has been tense and has included occasional fighting along the Commercial Markets, port, Sodeco, and Primo combat lines in the capital and on the Al-Tayyunah and Dar al-Kitab lines in the suburb. The warring parties employed automatic weapons and rockets, and the fire reached neighborhoods in the eastern areas close to the contact lines.

Army posts in Suq al-Gharb, Tallat al-Prins, and al-Khazzanat on the mountain were subjected to heavy sniper fire from positions facing them held by Junblatt's gunmen. Shortly after noon today, intermittent fighting was reported along the Bsaba-al-ma'rufiyah combat line. Fire from Junblatt's snipers have hindered efforts to repair electrical equipment. Meanwhile, the Al-Masalih-Qaqas crossing point remains closed to traffic. Efforts to reopen it were made at noon today after gunmen withdrew from the Kanj and ('Amil) buildings.

### Upper Al-Matn 'Calm'

*NC231500 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon*
*in Arabic 1445 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] Calm now prevails on the upper Al-Matn combat lines, following a flare-up during which gunmen from the Syrian Social Nationalist Party and their allies directed artillery fire at villages in the area.

### Al-Asad Telephones Jordan's King Husayn

*JN211822 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1815 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad held a telephone conversation with King Husayn ibn Talal, king of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, yesterday evening. The conversation dealt with relations between the two fraternal countries and the latest developments in the situation in the region.

### Al-Asad, Al-Shar' Receive Iranian Official

*JN221751 Damascus Television Service in Arabic*
*1730 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Mohammad 'Ali Besharati, assistant foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the accompanying delegation at 1830 today.

This morning Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received Mohammad 'Ali Besharati, who is currently visiting Syria. Iranian Charge d'Affaires Mahmud Hashemi attended the meeting. Talks revolved around the current situation in the region.

### Saudi Foreign Minister Arrives in Damascus 21 Feb

*JN211743 Damascus Television Service in Arabic*
*1730 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal arrived in Damascus this evening. He was received at Damascus International Airport by Faruq al-Shar', the foreign minister; Hunayn Hatim, director of the Arab Homeland Department at the Foreign Ministry; the assistant director of protocol; Shaykh Ahmad al-Kuhaymi, Saudi Arabia's ambassador in Damascus; and the embassy staff.

#### Delivers Message, Leaves

*JN221806 Damascus Television Service in Arabic*
*1730 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] At 1130 today President Hafiz al-Asad received Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, who conveyed to him a message from King Fahd. Talsk revolved around developments in the region.

Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal left Damascus this evening. Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' saw him off at Damascus International Airport. The prince made a statement in which he said: I had the honor to meet with President Hafiz al-Asad. He pointed out that his visit to Syria was within the framework of completing previous talks asserting that the talks will continue.

### Iranian Envoy Holds News Conference in Damascus

*JN231255 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic*
*1200 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] Iranian Assistant Foreign Minister Mohammad 'Ali Besharati held a news conference at the Iranian Embassy in Damascus to explain the Iranian position on the current Iraq-Iran war. Last night, Besharati met with President Hafiz al-Asad for 2 hours. Earlier, Al-Asad received Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal.

Besharati said that Iraq is still occupying 1,700 square kilometers of Iranian territory. He criticized the Security Council because it issued its first resolution on a cease-fire after 5 and 1/2 years without exercising its right to condemn the aggressor. He added that the Iranian forces crossed the Shatt al-'Arab and occupied the strategic Al-Faw harbor. He said the Iranian operations are continuing on two axes. Besharati claimed that Iraq has so far lost 75 planes and 16,000 dead. He said Iran's losses exceed $150 million.

Besharati asserted that the battle is only between Iraq and Iran and that it will continue until the regime of president Saddam Husayn is toppled. He said that this is a final decision. Besharati said Iran has 150 divisions ready for combat on all fronts.

As for Iran's relations with the rest of the Gulf states, they are good. Iran, he added, wants only good neighborliness.

On his talks with President al-Asad, he said that Syria's stance toward Iran has not changed, neither in the past nor in the present, and that Saudi Arabia is endeavoring to end the state of war but Iran's reply has been an insistence on toppling the Baghdad regime. He said everyone hopes that the area of operations will not expand, Iran's answer is that Iran will ensure that this area will not expand.

On Kuwait's stand, he sid that Kuwait supported Iraq in the war but we will forget the past. Iran will not punsih anyone and the continuation of the war should not frighten Kuwait. He warned against Iraq using Kuwaiti territory and airspace to hit Iran.

Concluding, he said that Iran extends its hand of friendship to all its friends in the Gulf.

Before leaving Damascus for Baghdad last night, Sa'ud al-Faysal told our radio that his meeting with President al-Asad was good, that what he heard and felt from the Syrian leader pleased him as concerns Syria's stand in support of basic Arab causes.

### Shamir Interviewed on IDF Searches, Domestic Issues

*TA220927 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0805 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Interview with Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer; place and date not given — recorded]

[Text]**[Schiffer]** Mr Vice Prime Minister, what do we know about the fate of the two kidnapped IDF soldiers at this point?
**[Shamir]** The IDF is continuing its searches for them in southern Lebanon, and will continue to do so as long as their fate is unknown and they are not in our hands, and as long as there is a chance to reach them.

**[Schiffer]** From reports arriving from the field, it transpires that this is not only a search for the soldiers, but also a complicated military operation for weapons searches. How long will this process continue?
**[Shamir]** I said that as long as there is a chance to find our two soldiers, the IDF will continue to search. Naturally, this search necessitates the recruitment and activation of large forces, and this is what we are doing.

**[Schiffer]** Is there no danger that the local population, as a result of the searches, will eventually turn against Israel and as a result the northern border will be harmed?
**[Shamir]** Obviously, the IDF took risks, but our duty is to defend Israel's security, the security of the northern border, and this is what the IDF is doing. All the residents and elements in these areas must realize that if the IDF is hit and if Israel's security is compromised, then they will have to pay the price and shoulder the responsibility, and whoever has done so will not go unpunished.

**[Schiffer]** Another factor in this area is UNIFIL. How would you define relations between the IDF and UNIFIL? Do you support a continued UNIFIL presence in the area? Do you think it is a stabilizing or a negative factor?
**[Shamir]** We have known for a long time that UNIFIL can fulfill no positive role in this area, not because they do not want to, but because of objective conditions. From Israel's point of view UNIFIL does not fulfill any positive role.

**[Schiffer]** Do you express this position in contacts with the United States?
**[Shamir]** Certainly. The U.S. Government, those who head the United Nations, and all the countries who contribute soldiers to UNIFIL, know what Israel's position is and the Foreign Ministry's representatives, myself included, bring this to their attention.

**[Schiffer]** And this opinion is not acceptable to them?
**[Shamir]** There are still elements who are interested in the existence of UNIFIL. There were countries which removed their soldiers from UNIFIL, and other countries are still hesitating about whether to do so. The top echelons of the United Nations obviously want this force to continue.

**[Schiffer]** Mr Shamir, with your permission let us move on to domestic issues. Yesterday the prime minister convened ministers from the Alignment and the Likud to discuss economic growth. How do you regard this issue? What did you discuss?
**[Shamir]** I think there is something very artificial in all the noise made over this issue in the last few days, because the issue of growth is not a disputed principle. In the government's basic guidelines it is stated — actually this is stated in the economic plan guidelines — that following the stage of curbing inflation there will be a stage of economic growth. The only question is how to implement the growth stage, how much, when to do it, and what are the priorities. There are no substantial differences between the Likud and the Alignment on the actual need for economic growth. We must deal with this matter practically, we must decide on procedures, and we must decide what issues must be dealt with immediately and what issues can be deferred. I do not regard this as a reason for some kind of a crisis, or for deep differences of opinion between the Likud and the Alignment.

**[Schiffer]** You mentioned the artificiality of the talks about economic growth. What, then, do you believe is the basis for this debate?
**[Shamir]** It is very possible that following the initial success of the economic plan, there are those who are afraid that the upcoming period will be more comfortable economically, and possibly they are afraid that this success will be attributed to the Likud. There are also real problems which cannot be included in the framework of growth. There are factories and institutions in Israel which have run into financial difficulties, which is only a natural outcome of the various fluctuations. Inflation and then the curbing of inflation are sharp fluctuations, and not every factory and institution can face them, and there is a need.... [changes thought] There are pressures on the Alignment to help these factories, and the Likud does not say in principle that we should not aid them. Every case and issue must be examined — whether from the national and economic points of view these institutions or factories should be aided, or whether they are beyond help. I do not see any principles involved here; we should search for solutions together, taking into account our capabilities and our economic limitations, which are still very serious, because we have still not reached safe shores. I am convinced that with a sincere desire for cooperation, and with dedicated efforts to solve the problems, we can find solutions without conflicts and crises.

**[Schiffer]** In the last few days the prime minister has claimed that the 7 years in which the Likud was in power were years in which everything was destroyed: agriculture, the economy. What do you say to this claim, especially in light of the fact that the national unity government indeed had to combat galloping inflation?
**[Shamir]** I do not believe that every second day we should bring up the lists of mistakes made by every political camp in Israel. We also have much to say about the mistakes and distortions of the Alignment when it was in power. We also have much to say about those institutions that come under Alignment elements which now face incredible economic difficulties.

**[Schiffer]** Are you referring to Solel Boneh [Histadrut Construction Company]?
**[Shamir]** Among others, and this also must be explained....
**[Schiffer**, interrupting] What is the problem here?

**[Shamir]** What I want to say is that if one side wants to show that the other side cannot manage its affairs properly, that it cannot manage the country's economic affairs, then much can also be said regarding the Alignment camp. However, I do not think that so long as the national unity government is operating with the cooperation of the two sides, we should search for excuses to blame each other. I have a great deal to say about the economic and national performance of the Likud governments during their 7 years in power. I think we did a lot for the country and its objectives, for the well-being of the population, and for improving the lot of many sectors in the public. There is much to say. It is true that everything has a price, but the fact is that today, after a very short period, we have freed ourselves from inflation almost completely and can again face the tasks of growth and buildup, of helping the people and building the nation.

**[Schiffer]** Will you support the new suggestion to establish an economic cabinet to deal with issues of growth and to be headed by the prime minister?
**[Shamir]** I have not heard of such a proposal. There are various proposals. We must remember, however, that when the national unity government was established we had to create a balance of power between the two main constituents of the government, the Likud and the Alignment. This balance was achieved by a division of jobs within the government and by the basic guidelines, which determined the agreed upon policy both in the political and the economic spheres. By the way, in the economic sphere we had no difficulties, because the discussions at the time proved that there are no substantial differences between us. As for implementing policy, this was arranged by giving each party its ministries, in which they now operate. It is inconceivable to change this balance of power now that the situation has changed for the better. Obviously, it is possible to demand or propose certain changes, but these must be agreed upon by the two sides.

**[Schiffer]** Mr Shamir, I understand that there was an understanding between you and the prime minister this week concerning reaction to the speech by Husayn, who this week said he is halting political coordination with 'Arafat. What do you think is the next stage in the peace process in the region? What should Israel do now that King Husayn has declared he is ending political ties with 'Arafat?
**[Shamir]** I was not surprised by this revelation that the PLO is not a factor that can contribute anything to peace, but is, on the contrary, an obstacle to peace. Whoever thought otherwise has seen his error. I find it difficult to understand why the Jordanian king is holding on to the PLO when he knows that peace and the PLO are diametrically opposed.

**[Schiffer]** What do you believe in? Do you believe it is possible to form a Palestinian leadership in the territories with whom we could talk?
**[Shamir]** It is desirable to reach a situation in which the Arabs of Eretz Yisra'el disassociate themselves as much as possible from the PLO. I do not know whether we can reach peace through negotiations with them or their representatives. In order to reach peace we must reach negotiations — and conclude them positively — with the Arab states, because war is between countries.

**[Schiffer]** However, the struggle is with the Palestinians, because they are the ones maintaining the daily struggle against Israel?
**[Shamir]** You are referring to terrorism?
**[Schiffer]** Yes.
**[Shamir]** Terrorism is not perpetrated by the Palestinian public. It is the product of several groups and organizations, and these groups could continue to exist even with the opposition of the great majority of Eretz Yisra'el Arabs. I am not speaking about terrorism. When we talk of peace negotiations, we are referring to peace in order to prevent wars, because in order to prevent wars you must make peace between states. Therefore Israel's foreign policy is constantly directed toward direct peace negotiations with the Arab states. Just as we have negotiated with Egypt, we want to negotiate with Jordan and other Arab states. This is our objective.

**[Schiffer]** Mr Shamir, were you surprised by the excerpts of Husayn's speech in which he revealed that he had reached an agreement [sikumin] with the United States regarding the possibility of the PLO participating in the peace process in the framework of an international conference?
**[Shamir]** These excerpts are a particular cause for concern, a great cause for concern, and we are making attempts to clarify this matter with the U.S. authorities to see if this is indeed the case. I view this as a dangerous step that could be dangerous for the future as well — at present nothing has come of it — and I view this as further proof of the inherent dangers in that institution we have already warned about, an international conference.

**[Schiffer]** Maybe it only proves that over the years the United States has not accepted Israel's position regarding the PLO, and that it does view the PLO as the legitimate representative of the Palestinians, if it will change its position.
**[Shamir]** From the U.S. commitments made since 1975, from what we have heard from them since that time, and during the last few days, the United States says that if the PLO does not accept its conditions, there can be no peace negotiations with it. It is certainly inconceivable to bring the PLO to an international conference without Israel's agreement. This is contrary to all commitments. And if something has happened here that must be regarded as a deviation from this line and from these U.S. commitments, then we should issue a warning about it and regard it as something dangerous which must not recur.

### Rabin, Levi Tour S. Lebanon

*TA221615 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew*
*1600 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, Chief of Staff Moshe Levi, and senior officers today toured southern Lebanon and the Galilee, and heard reports on the latest developments. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that afterwards, Minister Rabin met with the IDF commander and other senior officers to discuss the continuation of the operation in southern Lebanon. All day today the IDF forces in southern Lebanon were reduced. During the 5 days of searches, the IDF forces combed dozens of villages, questioned approximately 3,000 people, and detained for more questioning several dozen suspects, mainly members of the Hizballah organization. Large amounts of arms and ammunition were found. Yesterday, IDF forces blew up several houses belonging to members of Hizballah.

### Rabin Reports on IDF Operations

*TA231204 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1107 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] The Cabinet heard a report on the IDF operation in Lebanon at its meeting today. Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin told our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal that the escalation in katyusha firing is undoubtedly linked to the IDF search operation in southern Lebanon. Mr Rabin said that most of the clashes over the last few days involved Amal people, and only a few of them involved Hizballah personnel. We would never have gone beyond the boundaries of the security strip just to search for weapons, the defense minister said. Now we will continue to search for the missing soldiers through various groups. Our correspondent asked the defense minister why the searches were halted:

[Begin recording] [Rabin] The decision was made in accordance with only one criterion and consideration: to make a swift and supreme effort to search for the soldiers. Yesterday we held a joint debate, and everyone agreed — and certainly I thought — that we had exhausted all feasible possibilities to discover the soldiers' footsteps in the area we had cordoned off. We also had to take into account other ramifications of our presence in the area.

[Tal] Until yesterday it was declared that the IDF would continue to search for the soldiers until it finds them or their exact whereabouts. Do we know what has become of them?
[Rabin] First of all, the decision and the instruction was to search as long as there was any likelihood that by closing off areas, imposing a virtual curfew on villages, house-to-house searches, and searches in the fields between the villages, it would be possible to find them. It is true that right now there is no certainty as to where they are, but insofar as the method of searching is concerned, it was by and large exhausted.

[Tal] So what happens now? How will the search operations continue, if at all?
[Rabin] The central problem is obtaining information on the soldiers' whereabouts. In this regard we have no firm information on where they are. We will continue to collect information by various ways, through all sorts of elements, and if we have conclusive evidence, we will then decide what to do. I would like to mention that the general policy should first of all be to provide security for our northern settlements and our northern border. The method by which we operate, and which has proved itself over the past 8 months, involves the combination of two elements: the deployment of the IDF along the international border, maintaining the security strip, and preserving freedom of action. We had a prior agreed that as long as fighting by elements hostile to us is confined to the security strip, we will not go beyond certain means. The red line, from our point of view, is the peace and security of the Galilee. The job of the army and those IDF elements who are connected to the army of southern Lebanon and who are present in the area, is to provide that sense of security. In that respect, a conflict has arisen between the overall goal of security for the Galilee, and the moral need and value cherished by the IDF to carry out a search for its soldiers. Knowing that this involves a certain risk for the safety of the Galilee, we did what was called for and what our responsibility for the soldiers demanded. I cannot recall in the annals of the IDF any search of such a wide scope for kidnapped soldiers, who were missing in an area not under our control.

[Tal] What changes have taken place in the area? There have been some over the past few days, and we have noted something that might resemble what ie used to call an uprising by the local Shi'ite population. Could you notice any shift toward greater extremism?
[Rabin] I would say that at this stage there is the danger of radicalization. I do not believe we have noticed immediate effects, but the next few days will tell. I would say that the population certainly did not love the IDF's takeover and searches of 15-20 villages, including such a large town as Tibnin; but I think they understood and today it is clear to them that we did not come to entrench ourselves there again. Segments of the population will take advantage of this to win greater support and influence among the Shi'ites. Amal also operated against us. I believe that a large number of the katyushas directed at Israel were fired by Amal. Amal did not accept our presence quietly and the main clashes were with Amal; only a few of them were with Hizballah. I therefore believe that although we were obligated to carry out this extended and thorough search on such an unprecedented scale, the population still understands that it is better to let live, on both sides of the border.

[Tal] Perhaps you could say something about the aftereffects, the outcome of the searches. We found a lot of weapons and ammunition in the area: What does this indicate? And perhaps you could also say one word about UNIFIL's role in fighting terrorism?

[Rabin] I would say the following: We would not have entered the area merely to search for weapons. We only did that in light of an event as serious as the kidnapping of the soldiers. The result was: There is an unlimited quantity of weapons in Lebanon, and all the elements active in Lebanon have no problem acquiring arms from the Arab countries and various organizations which have the money to purchase them and have no problem transferring them from Syria and all sorts of other places. So this was not the goal. [end recording]

### General Levi Interviewed on Searches

*TA211930 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1815 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Interview with Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi, by Moshe Shlonsky on 21 February; place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Shlonsky] Is there anything new in the searches the IDF is conducting for our soldiers in Lebanon?
[Levi] To my regret, I do not have any positive news. We still have not found our soldiers. The most prominent change we made today was when we removed our force from a large portion of the sector in which the searches were conducted, including the village of Tibnin and all that area, as a result of the developments in the searches themselves.

[Shlonsky] Does that mean that in your opinion in those areas which you evacuated there is no chance or only a small chance of finding the soldiers?

[Levi] That is correct for now. Since reports are rife, I must say that we did not enter the area in order to capture territory. We entered in order to search for the two soldiers. Today's findings showed that we could reduce the area in which we were active, and this was our decision today. Different reports could alter this decision.

[Shlonsky] IDF sources have said we will stay in Lebanon until we know the fate of our two soldiers. What if this takes 1 or 2 months, or even more?
[Levi] There is something here which must be understood. Our sole objective at the moment is to find the two soldiers. I think this is justified, both in factual, military terms, and in terms of the moral duty and the values on which the IDF is based — fighters' comradeship. If we think or believe there is a chance, and when we have the data and the means to fulfill what emerges from this chance, it would be inconceivable not to take advantage of this opportunity. I would not place this within a timetable, and I would not pose the question as to how long the IDF will be in Lebanon. This question is irrelevant in this case. When we have in our possession any facts, material, a chance, even the slightest, we will do everything in our power to bring the soldiers home.

[Shlonsky] From your answer, can be it understood that there is no timetable, that we will remain there for as long as it takes?
[Levi] There is no timetable, but I also do not think there is any point in declaring that we are staying, in terms of fulfilling the task. I am aware that this could be damaging in that it could create a hostile atmosphere with the residents in this region. We have been aware of this since the beginning of the search. Both by means of our soldiers and through messages and explanations to the local residents, we have made a point of explaining why we are where we are, and that we have no intention of harming or disrupting the lives of others.

[Shlonsky] During the past 24 hours, there is a feeling that the terrorists have increased their activity in the region, whether it be Amal or other movements. Do you feel that this situation might deteriorate?
[Levi] We did maintain such a belief. I mentioned already that you can come with a certain intention, and others can misunderstand your intention, and still others can take advantage of this intention in order to create tension. As you said, this was evidenced, relatively speaking, in clashes in the territory. If we remember that we are talking about a large, populated area in which everyone has weapons and bombs, then it can be said that there have been very few incidents. There have been shooting incidents in the past 24 hours, some of which also spread into our territory. The awareness of the possibility of increased hostility is one of our considerations in our operation.

[Shlonsky] In the wake of the kidnapping, do you think that the IDF's deployment in the security zone should be changed?
[Levi] In my opinion, no. First, we did not talk about the attack itself. We consider this attack very serious, and we will not allow it to go unanswered. However, as far as the affect this incident has on our total deployment, I do not think that there is any reason or need to change this at the moment. This deployment has proven itself beyond our expectations in the extremely volatile conditions existing in Lebanon and in southern Lebanon. We have to examine how to correct the situation, not to change it.

## Further Reportage on Search for Kidnapped Soldiers

### IDF Returns to Security Strip

*TA221713 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] The IDF forces have left the area in which they were searching for the two kidnapped IDF soldiers, and have returned to the security strip. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal was told that the searches would continue in other ways and through other means.

Our correspondent reports that the decision to remove the forces from the area was made by the defense minister and the chief of staff during a discussion they held today, in which the deputy chief of staff, the commander of the Northern Command, and other senior officers also participated. They reached the conclusion that all means for finding the soldiers had been exhausted. During the day the IDF forces were reduced, and the exit from the region was completed by nightfall.

### Lubrani on IDF Pullout

*TA230621 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] Uri Lubrani, coordinator of government activities in Lebanon, has told our political correspondent Shmu'el Tal that the IDF pulled out of southern Lebanon because there was no chance of finding the kidnapped soldiers. He claims that the Shi'ite population in southern Lebanon had begun to doubt whether the IDF would leave the area, and hostile elements had increased pressure on that population to take action against the IDF.

Uri Lubrani believes that following the departure of the forces, the balance in the area will be restored and calm will prevail. However, our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that hundreds of youths belonging to Hizballah have arrived in Tyre and Al-Nabatiyah over the past few days, and that an office to recruit suicide squads has been set up in the center of Tyre. The Iranian representative in Lebanon visited the southern part of the country over the weekend and declared that his country would support Hizballah's war against Israel. Our correspondent notes that one of the Amal commanders in the south has said that because of the IDF searches, his organization has lost most of its achievements of the past 12 months.

### IDF Deploys in Security Strip

*TA231825 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] The Israeli army has redeployed in its former positions in the security zone in south Lebanon, following the search for two soldiers kidnapped last Monday.

Voice of Israel's military reporter says additional forces are also present in the security zone, to ensure a quick response to any new information on the whereabouts of the two soldiers.

### Peres Congratulates IDF

*TA231042 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1024 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] Public transportation prices will go up by 25 percent. This was decided by the Cabinet during its session this morning. The transportation minister, who opposed the hike, demanded that a decision on the matter by made by the Cabinet plenum, and it accepted the Treasury's demand. Thus public transportation prices will increase by 25 percent.

Further on the Cabinet session: Shim'on Peres congratulated the IDF for its search operation for the missing soldiers. He said that this operation, in which the IDF exhibited maximum control of the area, represents Israel's image of concern for the individual soldier and his well-being. The prime minister gave his congratulations to the northern settlements for their steadfast stand in recent days. The defense minister reviewed the IDF operation in Lebanon.

The Cabinet also decided to allot $1.5 billion [as heard] toward the implementation of the law on discharged soldiers, which provides for their education and vocational training, during the current fiscal year; and another $3.1 million in the next fiscal year. Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel reports that the prime minister prevented a discussion of central economic issues. The Likud and Alignment ministers will discuss partisan disputes in the economic sphere this evening.

### Communique Gives Further Details

*TA231245 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Cabinet communique read by Cabinet Secretary Yosi Beilin on 23 February — recorded]

[Text] At today's meeting of the Government, the prime minister sent greetings to the IDF on the search operations for the Israeli soldiers. He said that these operations, which displaying maximum control in the field, represent the image of Israel in its concern for the life and welfare of each and every soldier. The prime minister also sent greetings to the northern settlements on their firm stand during these days.

The minister of defense reviewed the course of the action. His remarks were given within the framework of the Ministerial Committee of Defense. The Government approved the appropriation of $1.5 million to finance the Veteran Soldiers Law, for purposes of education and job training during the current annual budget, and an additional $3.1 million for the next annual budget. The Government approved the increase in public transport fees.

### Likud-Alignment Meeting Ends Without Agreement

*TA211420 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] The meeting of the Alignment and Likud ministers has ended after 4 1/2 hours of discussions without the sides reaching an agreement on the disputed issues. Our correspondent Hayim Zissowitz reports that regarding the matter of economic growth, the Alignment ministers demanded that a special inner cabinet be set up which would be headed by the prime minister and comprise two Alignment and two Likud ministers.

On emerging from the meeting, Minister Gad Ya'aqobi said that there were profound differences of opinion on this matter. Minister Moshe Shahal said that the government would not discuss economic issues until agreement is reached between the Alignment and the Likud on the resumption of economic growth. Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i said he would not agree to the prime minister heading a special inner cabinet to deal with the matter of growth because there is no way that this subject can be separated from the other economic issues. He stressed that there is no disagreement over the need for economic growth, but said that it must be implemented only in accordance with the budget.

Our correspondent reports that the discussion was in large part to the point, but sharp differences of opinion emerged between Ministers Sharon and Nehamkin when the agriculture minister claimed that the existing settlements should be strengthened before people are moved to Judaea and Samaria.

### Peres Comments on Meeting

*TA211730 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has said that several Alignment ministers lack confidence in one of the Likud ministers, and our correspondent Amnon Nadav says that although he did not mention the name, he was referring to Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i.

During the discussion this afternoon between the Alignment and Likud ministers, the prime minister said that he was not suggesting that money be printed, rather he was suggesting that a supportive fund be set up from the means the government has in its possession. He again harshly criticized the Likud governments which, according to him, harmed the economy and gave out benefits, such as high salaries, to directors in government companies, together with cars and drivers. Mr Peres called for an end to this practice. The finance minister has displayed willingness, but Minister David Levi said that the finance minister cannot agree on Levi's behalf.

During the discussion, the Likud ministers again claimed that the proposals by the prime minister and the Alignment ministers sabotage the economic program. In addition, they claimed that in recent days, the prime minister has gone back to acting as a party leader, and not as a prime minister. The Alignment ministers claimed that the Likud ministers were acting hypocritically, and presented excerpts from newspaper interviews in which Likud ministers had spoken out against the economic program.

Our correspondent notes that several ministers who participated in the meeting said the atmosphere during the discussion was not one of appeasement. The prime minister announced that the government would not deal with central economic issues until agreement between the Alignment and the Likud is reached.

### Likud Ministers on Early Elections

*TA230526 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] Likud ministers last night checked with the religious parties on whether they would support the establishment of a narrow-based government led by the Alignment, or early elections. Our correspondent Amnon Nadav has learned that the religious parties announced that they would not support a narrow-based government and will continue to support the unity government. They also announced that they had not held talks with the Alignment on this matter.

The Alignment and Likud ministers will meet again this evening in an attempt to settle their dispute. Senior Alignment sources have said that those who wish the rotation to take place must make sure that the economy is not run by the Sharon-Moda'i axis.

### Parties Differ on Economic Issues

*TA231940 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Report by economic affairs correspondent Hayim Plattner, from the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem — live]

[Text] The Likud and Alignment ministers are currently discussing Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' demand to establish a ministerial committee for economic growth issues. Prime Minister Peres is firm in his demand that he head the ministerial team which will handle the economic growth.

In a consultation the Alignment ministers held with the Likud ministers prior to the meeting it was made clear that the Alignment will not go back on its positions even if this exacerbates the crisis with its partner in the national unity government. Mr Peres believes that now that the economic program should focus on rehabilitating the economy and the attendant social aspects, it is he who should direct the effort. Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i is not acceptable to him as the person who can handle the social problems created by the economic program. Mr Peres' confidants also mention that immediately after his assuming his duties as prime minister, in September 1984, Peres set up the task force, the main mission of which is to deal with growth.

The Alignment's demand meets with a very firm objection by the Likud. The ministerial team which the prime minister wishes to lead may receive superpowers in the economic sphere. Thus, the team will be able to introduce changes in the budget, approve the issuance of bonds or shares, raise funds overseas, and handle various other issues which fall under the purview of the finance minister. If we add to this the Alignment's demand that the prime minister and vice prime minister take over the finance minister's right of appointing members to the boards of directors of government-owned companies, we will understand how badly the implementation of the Alignment's demands may affect Minister Moda'i and the Likud. The Likud says this will not only affect Minister Moda'i, but also notes the Alignment's desire to continue handling economic affairs even after the rotation, a point to which the Likud is opposed.

As was stated, the meeting is being conducted in an atmosphere of crisis now, but it seems that Prime Minister Peres will refrain from exacerbating matters tonight, and will put off the adoption of conclusions and decisions.

### Meeting Ends Without Results

*TA232108 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] A few minutes ago the meeting between Alignment and Likud ministers on the economic growth issue ended without any results. Minister David Levi said upon leaving the meeting that the Alignment presented the Likud with an ultimatum and that the Likud rejects this ultimatum outright. Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said the disputed problems could have been solved during the meeting. He added that this can still be done and that it is unnecessary to change the structure of the government and take powers away from the finance minister. Our correspondent Hayim Zissowitz reports that no date has been set for another meeting and that the ministers dispersed without any agreement.

## OAU Ministerial Council Meeting Previewed

*AB231300 Dakar PANA in English 1511 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] Addis Ababa, 21 Feb (PANA)—The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) will meet in Addis Ababa from 25 Feb-4 March to adopt the organisation's budget for the financial year 1986-87 and evolve common strategies to tackle various continental problems.

The budget proposed by the advisory committee on administrative, budgetary and financial matters amounts to 25.5 million U.S. dollars — representing about ten percent increase over the current budget of 23,254,236 dollars. This itself is a 8.1 percent decrease as compared to the 25,305,171 million dollars allocated for the 1984-85 financial year.

Despite repeated appeals to settle their arrears, outstanding contributions of member-states to the OAU's regular budget are still a matter of serious concern to the general secretariat, according to OAU sources.

Items on the draft agenda for the meeting, grouped under 12 main headings, cover wide-ranging subjects from economic and political matters to social, educational, scientific and cultural questions. Afro-Arab cooperation, information, juridical questions and subventions to pan-African organisations also figure prominently on the tentative agenda.

The path of searching for answers to the serious economic crisis in which Africa is engulfed and which is now compounded by drought and famine in many parts of the continent will be dealt with by OAU Secretary General Ide Oumarou in his report on preparations for the special United Nations General Assembly session in May. This subject will be specifically dealt with by an extraordinary OAU ministerial council meeting from 30-31 March, preceded by an emergency meeting of the ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) from 28-29 March.

Among the political matters will be the situation in southern Africa, a thorough analysis of which will be contained in the report of the 45th ordinary session of the Coordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa.

The OAU secretary general will report to the council on the implications of the abrogation of the Clark Amendment by the United States to the situation in southern Africa. The question of boycott of airlines flying to and from South Africa will also come up for discussion. Other political matters will be the Middle East, the question of Palestine, and refugees in Africa.

The report and resolutions of the first extraordinary session of the conference of ministers of information held in Cairo last November will also be presented to the council.

The ministers will discuss preparations for convening the first conference of African ministers of culture and probably come up with a date for the conference.

The OAU secretary general will submit proposals for revising the convention on preservation of nature and natural resources in Africa.

Senegal has proposed a cooperation accord to be entered into between the OAU and the intergovernmental bureau for information. Other items may be raised by member-states in writing or submitted to the council during discussion of the agenda.

## OATUU Official Blames Ghana, Libya for Deadlock

*AB201242 Paris AFP in French 0804 GMT 20 Feb 86*

[Text] Dakar, 20 Feb (AFP)—Ghana and Libya are responsible for the problems currently facing the Organization of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU), Hassan Adebayo Sunmonu (Nigeria), president of the Executive Committee of the OATUU elected earlier this month by the group of 28 countries which broke away from the organization, said Wednesday night.

"The Ghanaian Government wanted to maintain at all costs the outgoing former secretary general, James Dennis Akumu (Kenya), at the head of the organization, under pressure from Libya, by using antidemocratic methods and intimidation during the recent extraordinary congress of Accra," he said at a news conference in Dakar.

The fact that Libya has been allocating $100,000 annually to the functionaries of the OATUU since it assumed the presidency in 1976, made Mr Akumu look down with scorn on member-African trade unions which, on their part, were not paying up their annual contributions, Mr Sunmonu added. The new team, he said, will ask the help of member-trade unions in getting the OATUU out of Libyan grips and work for its redynamization.

The new Executive Committee of the OATUU will be temporarily based in Dakar while waiting for Cameroon to give its accord to establish the new executive secretariat in Yaounde, Mr Sunmonu stated, adding that this executive committee will immediately be installed in Accra if the Ghanaian Government gives it the guarantee that it could work there in tranquility.

It should be recalled that this Executive Committee was elected during the extraordinary congress of the OATUU held from 6 to 8 February in Accra (seat of the organization) by a group of 28 countries which demanded the departure of Mr Akumu, whom they accused of mismanagement and embezzlement during his 13 years as the executive secretary of the OATUU.

On their part, the 13 countries, which refused to follow this group, appointed another executive committee which remains under the leadership of Ali El-Nefishy (Libya) and James Dennis Akumu.

## Lesotho To Continue Giving Apartheid Victims Refuge

*LD211951 Daka PANA in English 1728 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] Addis Ababa, 21 Feb (PANA)—The new Government of Lesotho has reassured the OAU of its commitment to continue to give refuge to victims of apartheid "provided they abide by their obligation to respect conditions of asylum". The assurance was conveyed in Addis Ababa to OAU Secretary General Ide Oumarou by a high-powered delegation from King Moshoeshoe II, while delivering a message from the king, according to an OAU press release issued today.

The release said the delegation, which was led by Mr Vincent Moeketse Malebo, minister of information and broadcasting, included Colonel Blyth Ramohlanka Ntsohi, minister of labour and manpower, and Mr Berene Sekhomyana, high commissioner to Kenya and permanent representative to OAU, and briefed the OAU secretary general on the recent change of government in Lesotho resulting from a military take-over on 20 January. The delegation informed the secretary general that, contrary to allegations in the mass media, the change of government had not been brought about by South Africa and was entirely a result of internal problems in the country. "In the special message from the king, the secretary general was informed that the removal from power of the previous government was both imperative and urgent in order to restore peace and to reconcile the Basotho nation which had become increasingly polarised with illegal [words indistinct] firearms, resulting in violence, armed robberies and increasing crime and murder", the release continued.

"The delegation informed the secretary general that the new government had declared its strong commitment to abide by all international obligations and other treaties to which Lesotho is signatory. Lesotho remained fully committed to its traditional obligation of giving refuge and hospitality to all who find themselves victims of political persecution in South Africa and elsewhere. Lesotho also will continue to abide by the principle of non-alignment and will resist any attempt by any big power to reduce the country to a subservient status".

According to the release, "the secretary general expressed his appreciation for the message sent by King Moshoeshoe and assured the delegation that the OAU considered Lesotho as a vanguard of the liberation struggle (?against) [words indistinct] and would continue to give it all the necessary support to safeguard its independence and its territorial integrity in its struggle against apartheid".

## ALGERIA

### Messaadia Meets Bendjedid, Departs for CPSU Congress

*LD230034 Algiers APS in Arabic 1630 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] Algiers, 22 Feb (APS) — In the presidency office today Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and secretary general of the FLN Party, received Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the FLN Politburo and official in charge of the Permanent Secretariat, before his departure for Moscow leading a party delegation to the 27th CPSU Congress.

### Chadian Official Arrives With Habre Message

*LD211727 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] Chadian Foreign Affairs Minister [title as heard] Karom Ahmed arrived in Algeria today as President Hissein Habre's special envoy. He was welcomed at Houari Boumedienne International Airport by the head of the Foreign Ministry Africa Section and the caretaker of Chadian affairs in Algeria. In a statement at the airport, Karom Ahmed affirmed that he is carrying a message from Hissein Habre to FLN Secretary General and President Chadli Bendjedid.

## LIBYA

### Al-Qadhdhafi on Relations With Chad, U.S., Europe

*NC231926 Athens KIRIAKATIKI ELEVTHEROTIPIA in Greek 23 Feb 86 pp 6, 7*

["Exclusive" interview with Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi by Martha Vretakou and Eleni Kokhaimidhou at Al-Qadhdhafi's tent in Tripoli on 17 February]

[Text] **[Question]** To date you have not commented on developments in neighboring Chad. What does this silence mean? How do you judge France's attitude toward Chad?

**[Al-Qadhdhafi]** Recent events in Chad concern only the Chadian people. This country, made up of various tribes and ethnic communities, is the scene of a civil war — a battle between two conflicting parties. It began 25 years ago and it could continue for another 25. Libya's position is that there should be no foreign intervention in this country's internal affairs.

**[Question]** Yet there is one....

**[Al-Qadhdhafi]** Yes, because Chad is centrally located in Africa, the United States is working with France to take over [katalipsis] the country and establish a U.S. base, which would allow the United States to control the whole African Continent. Mitterrand's forces have bombed a civilian airport, the only one in the northern part of Chad. Foodstuffs and medicine were supplied to the country through this airport — a civilian and not a military one. Mitterrand has violated the terms of the agreement signed in Crete. Despite all this, we will not intervene. We want a peaceful solution and an end to the bloodshed.

**[Question]** Do you have a definite plan to end the problems in Chad?

**[Al-Qadhdhafi]** My proposal is that the people of Chad should be free to decide on their own future, without intervention.

**[Question]** Will you meet with President Mitterrand to discuss Chad?

**[Al-Qadhdhafi]** There are continuous contacts, but the African Union must furnish the solution.

**[Question]** Libya, too, seems to be seriously threatened by the United States, which holds your country responsible for a series of terrorist actions. What are the real reasons for this long held U.S. attitude?

**[Al-Qadhdhafi]** Libya has been trying to unite all the Arabs and Arab countries into a strong power to work against the common enemy. The United States is scared and dislikes this. Thus, it reacts as you described.

**[Question]** The recent mission by Whitehead, the U.S. deputy secretary of state, does not appear to have produced the expected results. How do you view the obvious dissension between the Americans and the West Europeans?

**[Al-Qadhdhafi]** The interests of West European countries differ completely from those of the United States. It was to be expected, therefore, that they could not agree. The United States, in its efforts to further itself, does not respect other countries' interests. It is concerned only about the defense of Western Europe and NATO. This is why it has placed missiles in Western Europe and has filled the Mediterranean with fleets and nuclear arms.

**[Question]** Despite all this, the West believes that you are adopting a friendly attitude toward the terrorists. In your opinion, how was this impression created, and how could you alleviate it?

**[Al-Qadhdhafi]** We support the Palestinians' struggle for their country's liberation from the conquerors. The United States believes that this support is a type of terrorism.... If that is the case, our revolution, as well as everything we do, are terrorist actions.

**[Question]** In the West there is great confusion, as well as ignorance, on the social development in your country and on its position in the world. Can you tell us how you see contemporary Libya?

**[Al-Qadhdhafi]** We are trying to elevate the Libyan people's standard of living. Before the revolution, the Libyan people were living at subsistence level in huts and tents. All our efforts aim to raise our people's standard of living as high as possible.

**[Question]** What is Libya's role at present in the Arab world, which is characterized by unprecedented policies and serious disputes?

**[Al-Qadhdhafi]** Our efforts aim to unite all the Arab states. This is not easily accomplished, as the approximately 20 Arab states have different political views and interests. As for now, these efforts are impossible.

**[Question]** Would you like to talk about the stand of the Mediterranean countries, such as Greece and Italy, toward Libya?

**[Al-Qadhdhafi]** Greece is a friendly country with a socialist government that has maintained and continues to maintain that the Mediterranean should be free of nuclear weapons. We are in complete agreement with this stand. Our relations with Italy are also good. The only dispute is the compensation we demand for the crimes and damage of the Italian occupation. Our efforts aim to persuade these countries to get rid of the U.S. bases because, in the event of a nuclear war, they will de destroyed, along with the other Mediterranean countries.

**[Question]** In Greece, there are differing views on whether the U.S. bases should be removed. What will be Libya's stance toward Greece if the U.S. bases remain?
**[Al-Qadhdhafi]** This is an issue that primarily concerns Greek defense, and is a secondary issue for other countries. It is up to the Greek people to decide what is in their interest.

**[Question]** You recently said that Libya's isolation from the West would lead your country toward the Soviet Union. The Green Book proposes the third path, between the socialist and capitalist models. According to this, should not Libya keep equal distance, at least ideologically, from the two superpowers?
**[Al-Qadhdhafi]** According to the country's ruling system and the Green Book, Libyan policy gives absolute authority to the people. Our ideology is a new one that will change all the world into a world of jamahiriyahs (that is, of people's rule), without governments, ministries, parliamentary deputies, police, armies, or violence. The people's congresses will make decisions, which the people's committees will implement. Our jamahiriyahs are based on the ancient Greeks system, that is, the people rule without a government or parties.

**[Question]** How do you view Libya's future? The price of oil is constantly dropping and the country's oil reserves will be exhausted in the next 20 years. Thus Libya could be poorer and forced to make changes in its foreign policy. What would happen to the export of the Libyan "third path" model — Arab socialism? And what about the slogan "Partners, not salaried workers"?
**[Al-Qadhdhafi]** Libya has great prospects for development and adequate oil deposits. The oil issue, however, will not affect our economy directly, once we have developed an industry which offsets the reduction of the oil price. However, I believe that the Iran-Iraq war will cause a drop in the production of oil and a corresponding increase in price. Libya, whose oil deposits can last for over 100 years, does not intend to reduce the price of oil; on the contrary, Libya will attempt to increase the price by reducing production. This would cause an increase in demand and a corresponding increase in price, despite the pressure on Libya from the other oil-producing states. The Third World theory is not at all related to oil.

**[Question]** What is your position on the fall of the dictatorship in Haiti and on the presidential elections in the Philippines?
**[Al-Qadhdhafi]** Naturally, we have been very satisfied with the fall of dictatorship in Haiti. However, the government which has assumed power is not a people's government. The revolution should continue until a completely democratic government is established. In the Philippines, an illegal government has been confirmed by fraudulent elections. Of course, this has been the result of activities by the United States, which considers the Philippines an area of great importance and does not want to lose it.

**[Question]** You do not hold any office in your country. You are not president of the Republic, the prime minister, nor president of the parliament. Yet you are the center of Libyan political life. how do you view yourself?
**[Al-Qadhdhafi]** I am the chief of the revolution and that is all.

**[Question]** The last question is whether anything frightens Al-Qadhdhafi?
**[Al-Qadhdhafi]** I am beyond fear. I am no longer frightened by anything. (laughs)

### USSR Official 'Deplores' French Intervention in Chad

*LD230016 Tripoli JANA in English 1801 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] Moscow, Jumada Athani 11, Feb, 22, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The deputy director of the Soviet Institute for American and Canadian Affairs yesterday deplored French military intervention in Chad. He said the the French military intervention in Chad violated international rules and conventions. Meanwhile, *IZVESTIYA* newspaper asserted that France and the United States planned jointly military intervention in the internal affairs of the Chadian people.

### Chadians in Benghazi Protest French Actions

*LD231842 Tripoli JANA in English 1740 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] Benghazi Jumada Athani 12, Feb 23 JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Chadians in Benghazi demonstrated this morning in protest against French military intervention in Chad and the French jets bombing of Ouadi Doum civilian airport. Demonstrators carried Chadian flag and green banner expressing Chadian people's anger and condemnation of mutinous Habre and French military occupation aimed at flaring up hated and turning up Chadians against each other.

The demonstrators issued a statement in which they draw the attention of international organisations, and OAU and human rights movements to the plight of the Chadian people. The Chadians condemned the ruling gangs in Ndjamena and French flagrant military intervention. They saluted the Transitional Government of National Unity headed by Goukouni Oueddei and its courageous stand in countering colonial intervention. The demonstrators reaffirmed their commitment to armed struggle against imperialist governments such as France and America, and their interference in African affairs. They lauded the unlimited assistance being given by the Great Al-Fatih Revolution towards Chadian struggle for freedom and independence.

### Nigerian Foreign Minister Arrives 21 Feb

*LD221049 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0915 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] Tripoli, 22 Feb (JANA) — Nigerian Foreign Minister Bolaji Akinyemi and his accompanying delegation arrived yesterday evening on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

### Becomes Ill, Hospitalized

*AB231949 Paris AFP in English 1906 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] Tripoli, Feb 23 (AFP) — Nigerian Foreign Minister Bolaji Akinyemi was taken to hospital here before completing a mission to Libya aimed at obtaining peace in the Chadian civil war, members of his delegation said here today. They said he was still under medical observation but his condition had improved.

Mr Akinyemi arrived here Friday night from Paris and saw Libyan diplomats and members of the "People's Committee" dealing with the Chadian problem before being taken ill, but was unable to see Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. Before leaving Paris, where he saw French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas, Mr Akinyemi said the Nigerian government could no longer tolerate the fighting in neighboring Chad between the Ndjamena government, supported by France, and the rival Transitional Government of National Union backed by Libya.

A member of his delegation said Mr Akinyemi might return to Tripoli later or be visited by a Libyan delegation in Lagos. It was not certain whether he would return to Nigeria after his release from hospital or go on to an Organisation of African Unity ministerial conference in Addis Ababa.

The delegation source refused to give details of Mr Akinyemi's talks with the Libyans.

### Radu-Led RCP Delegation Arrives 23 Feb

*LD241002 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 24 Feb 86*

[Text] Tripoli, 24 Feb (JANA) — Constantin Radu, member of the Romanian Communist Party [RCP] Secretariat and his accompanying delegation, arrived yesterday evening in Tripoli on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Constantin Radu, in a statement to a JANA correspondent, said that Romania stands by the side of the Libyan people in its resistance against U.S. imperialist threats. He said that his visit is aimed at strengthening the friendly relations between the Jamahiriyah and Romania, relations whose pillars were set up by the brother leader, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu.

### USSR Youth Delegation Meets With Education Group

*LD231234 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1055 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] Tripoli, 23, Feb (JANA) — The General Educational People's Congress for Universities yesterday morning in Tripoli held a meeting with the Soviet youth delegation, which is currently visiting the Jamahiriyah. The ways to develop the relations of friendship and cooperation between the students council of the Soviet Union and the students in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah were discussed at the meeting.

The Soviet youth delegation had arrived in Tripoli the day before yesterday on a visit to the Jamahiriyah at the invitation of the General Educational People's Congress for Universities.

### Algerian Delegation Arrives 23 Feb for Oil Talks

*LD231951 Tripoli JANA in English 1744 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada Athani 12, Feb. 23, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Abdallah, vice president of the Algerian national people's assembly, and Mostefa Benamar, Algerian minister of commerce, arrived this morning in Tripoli on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

In a statement to JANA correspondent, they saluted the firm and courageous stand of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution asserting that their visit to Jamahiriyah came within the framework of consolidation of fraternal ties between the two brotherly peoples especially in the wake of the meeting which took place between the leader of the revolution and President Chadli Bendjedid.

On OPEC and oil prices the Algerian minister of commerce said that contacts which were conducted between Jamahiriyah, Algeria and Iran, besides the meeting which takes place tomorrow between Algeria, Libya, Nigeria and Gabon, are devoted to find ways to counter the crisis aimed at impairing our political and economic stances.

## SUDAN

### Chadian Envoy Says Libya Increasing Troops in North

*AB240813 Paris AFP in English 0738 GMT 24 Feb 86*

[Text] Khartoum, Feb 24 (AFP) — Libya has doubled its troops in northern Chad from 5,000 to 10,000 men, a Chadian envoy seeking Sudanese mediation said here Sunday, the SUDAN NEWS AGENCY reported. The situation was relatively calm following a recent flare-up, "but we expect a Libyan attack any time," the envoy from President Hissein Habre told Sudanese leader General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab. The envoy stressed that mediation would fail if it did not succeed in tackling the "real problem" which, he said, concerned Libya and Chad and not the legitimate government in Ndjamena and its Chadian opponents.

### Military Council Discusses Security Situation

*GF221837 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1725 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] Khartoum, 22 Feb (SUNA) — The Transitional Military Council [TMC] has reviewed the security situation in the country in light of current events in northern Chad which resulted in the influx of refugees in the western part of the country. At a regular meeting today, chaired by Lieutenant General Siwar al-Dhahab, the council expressed its regret at the raging clashes in neighboring Chad and stressed that the warring brothers should be committed to the principle of dialogue to resolve their internal problems. The council also recommended that necessary measures be taken to control the influx of refugees through the western borders.

The council heard a routine report on security indicating that situation is stable in various parts of the country. The council also heard a report by Lieutenant General Taj al-Din, deputy chairman of the TMC and deputy commander in chief of the

People's Armed Forces, on his visit to fraternal Kuwait and his talks with senior Kuwaiti officials.

## TMC Deputy Chairman To Visit Saudi Arabia in March

*EA231930 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] Transitional Military Council Deputy Chairman Lieutenant General Taj al-Din 'Abdallah Fadl will visit the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in March within the framework of strengthening and developing bilateral relations. Moreover, his excellency has declared in a press statement that his recent visit to the State of Kuwait was positive in that officials there expressed full readiness to help Sudan solve its problems. They also expressed their readiness to supply Sudan with petroleum products for a year to help it prepare for the coming agricultural season. His excellency praised the continuing activity being undertaken by the State of Kuwait with Arab funds to fulfill its bilateral commitments to Sudan in the absence of IMF cooperation. He excellency said his meeting with the Sudanese community had been successful, noting their effusive enthusiasm for effective participation in building the Sudanese economy.

## Prime Minister Cautions Against Violence

*JN210958 Khartoum SUNA in English 0922 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] Khartoum, Feb 21, (SUNA) — Premier Al-Jazuli Daf'allah yesterday cautioned against the violence phenomenon recently witnessed in the country which would undermine the democratic life. Addressing a meeting of some leaders of political parties and organizations, Al-Jazuli urged all political forces to shoulder their responsibility in safeguarding the democratic process.

The political leaders stressed the inportance of revising the performance of national papers and mass media to ensure their neutrality and objectivity. They also urged the government to bridge differences in view points particularly towards general issues and called for creating a new security equation in coping with the new liberal life.

## Goverment To Barter Food for Libyan Oil

*NC221809 Paris AFP in English 1454 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[By Marie Jioannidis]

[Excerpt] Tripoli, Feb 21 (AFP) [date as received] — Libya and Sudan have agreed to a major deal involving Sudanese agricultural produce in part-exchange for Libyan oil, a visiting Sudanese minister has said here. Energy Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Uthman Musa told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that the deal, by which Libya will supply 100,000 tonnes of oil per year to Sudan, was "a trade deal, and not a political agreement." That part of the oil import bill not paid for in kind would be settled by a financial arrangement involving the remittances of Sudanese immigrant workers in Libya, he said, adding that he expected the numbers of such workers to increase from the present level of 30,000.

Relations between the two countries, which share a short border, have warmed since last April, when Sudan's strongly anti-Libyan president, Ja'far Numayri, was overthrown in a coup. The Libyan oil supply will replace imports from Saudi Arabia, which was one of Sudan's main backers under President Numayri.

In part-exchange, Sudan will supply Libya with meat, oilseeds and animal skins, Mr. Musa said, adding that the reference oil price still had to be worked out. He said the remainder of the oil bill would be paid from a fund set up in Libya for the remittances of Sudanese workers there. The worker's remittances would then be paid by the Sudanese Government in Sudan in local currency, avoiding foreign currency dealings, he added. "We are hoping there will be other exchanges of visits (between Libya and Sudan) in coming months, and we hope that the remittances of Sudanese nationals, as well as the food products, will cover the oil costs," he said.

## Suit Against Arab Bank Filed

*NC221946 Paris AFP in English 1531 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] Khartoum, Feb 22 (AFP) — Sudan's military government has filed a suit in a French court against an international Arab merchant bank alleged to have covered up oil-related fraud which cost the country around 75 million dollars between 1979 and 1985, according to the daily newspaper *AL-SAHAFAH.*

Advocate Salim Isa, the chairman of a committee investigating the alleged fraud, was quoting as saying that the case involved former President Ja'far Numayri, Saudi Arabian multimillionaire Adnan Khashoggi, Sudanese businessman Khadr al-Sharif, former Energy Minister Sharif al-Tuhami, and four other people. President Numayri was overthrown by the current military regime in April last year.

Mr Isa said the lawsuit, for which a French examining magistrate has already been appointed, was being brought against the Baii — which diplomatic sources here identified as the international Arab investment bank, a subsidiary of the Luxembourg-based international credit and commerce bank. French and British lawyers are acting on behalf of the Sudanese Government, Mr Isa said. He told the paper that inquiries by his committee in Paris had shown that the bank had undertaken all financial procedures related to Sudan's oil purchases under the Numayri regime. It had kept private accounts for senior officials of the regime, including the president himself, as well as for foreign businessmen who were involved in the case as oil agents, Mr Isa said.

# TUNISIA

## Prime Minister Receives PDRY Justice Minister

*LD212222 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] This evening Mr Mohamed Mzali, prime minister and minister of the interior, received at the palace of the government at Al-Qasbah Mr 'Abd al-Wasi' Ahmad Sallam, special envoy of President Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas to President Habib

Bourguiba and minister of justice in the PDRY. The Yemeni special envoy stated that he conveyed to Mr Mohamed Mzali, prime minister and minister of the interior, a written message from Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council in the PDRY and member of the YSP Politburo, to his brother His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba.

### Destoutian Socialist Party To Attend CPSU Congress

*LD211903 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1500 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] Tunis, 21 Feb (KUNA) — The Tunisian ruling Destourian Socialist Party has reportedly decided to accept an official invitation to attend the 27th CPSU Congress. President Habib Bourguiba has charged the director of his ruling party, Hedi Baccouche, to lead the Tunisian Party delegation to the congress.

The Tunisian party's attendance at the CPSU congress -- the first ever -- reflects the extent of the recent rapprochement in relations between the Soviet Union and Tunisia. The two countries recently formed a higher joint commission to develop economic, scientific, technical and trade cooperation. This commission held its first meeting here last Wednesday, under the cochairmanship of Yevgeniy Osadchuk, deputy chairman of the Soviet State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, and Ahmed Ben Arfa, Tunisian secretary of state for foreign affairs in charge of international cooperation.

In an exclusive statement to KUNA, an authorized Tunisian source expressed the hope that the volume of trade exchanges would double between the two countries in the current year: The volume of these exchanges in 1985 amounted to approximately $10 million.

The source further said that the Soviet side in the higher joint commission had voiced the willingness of his government to buy quantities of Tunisian phosphate, currently undergoing a slump on foreign markets due to international competition.

He added that the Tunisian and Soviet sides had also agreed to develop cooperation in the industrial domain, particularly in the spheres of phosphate processing and glass manufacturing.

## ETHIOPIA

### Mengistu Leaves for CPSU Congress in Moscow

*EA241029 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0900 GMT 24 Feb 86*

[Excerpt] WPE Central Committee secretary general, Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC] chairman and commander in chief of the revolutionary armed forces, Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, left for Moscow today to attend the 27th CPSU Congress, which is due to open tomorrow.

The comrade secretary general was seen off from Bole International Airport by WPE Central Committee Politburo member and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, Comrade Fikre-Selassie Wogderes, and WPE Central Committee Politburo member and secretary, Comrade Fiseha Desta. Also present were WPE Central Committee Politburo members and alternate members, WPE Central Committee members, ministers and Soviet Embassy staff in revolutionary Ethiopia.

## UGANDA

### NRA Captures Karuma Falls Bridge 20 Feb

*AB211531 Paris AFP in English 1506 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] Kampala, Feb 21 (AFP) — Troops of the new Ugandan Government have captured the Karuma Falls Bridge, the most important strategic point on the road to the northern town of Gulu, where forces loyal to the ousted military regime are believed to have regrouped, the Defence Ministry said today.

A ministry statement said the bridge, about 270 km (170 miles) norhtwest of here on the highway to Gulu, was captured yesterday at 6 p.m. local time by the 163rd Brigade of the National Resistance Army (NRA) after "heavy fighting."

The taking of the bridge leaves Gulu as the last important military objective for those NRA forces advancing north by the western route.

The Karuma Falls Bridge in only 77 kms (48 miles) from the town of Gulu, around which the army commander under the deposed military regime, Lieutenant-General Bazilio Olara Okello, is believe to have marshalled forces loyal to the former leadership.

The statement, which made no mention of casualties, also said the Township of Dokolo, near the northern town of Lira, had been captured by NRA troops advancing north on an eastern route.

The NRA has been advancing steadily northwards since it took control of Kampala at the end of last month and set up a new government under its leader Yoweri Museveni, now president and defence minister.

The statement, appealed to soldiers still fighting against the NRA with what it called "the criminal alliance" of Lt-Gen Bazilio Olara Okello and the defence minister of the ousted regime, Brigadier Wilson Toko, to surrender and rally to the government.

It said those who surrendered would be well treated, like the estimated 10,000 soldiers who had already laid down arms.

### Okello Reported Holding Many Bantus Hostage

*EA211127 Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 21 Feb 86 pp 1,32*

[Report by *DAILY NATION* correspondent Chris Musyoka]

[Excerpt] According to *NATION* staffer, Chris Musyoka, reporting from Kampala, Lt-Gen Okello is holding a big number of Bantu people as hostages. Reports reaching Kampala said that Lt-Gen Okello, now in Kitgu, has arrested a large number of the southern Bantu people, including Bagandas, Banyankole, Basoga, Banyoro, Bahiga, Bagisu and Batoro, working either in the Civil Service, quasi-government bodies or as traders. An English daily, *THE STAR* quoting highly reliable sources, said Lt-Gen Okello intends to use the hostages as a last resort if the NRA [National Resistance Army] tried to capture the towns still under his control. Lt-Gen Okello is also reported to have said that he is a prisoner of his own troops and is no longer interested in fighting but cannot escape.

### Museveni Interviewed on Internal Issues

*LD240504 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Report on interview with Ugandan leader Yoweri Museveni by correspondent Stella Charbi in Uganda; date not given; Museveni remarks in quotation marks recorded in vernacular with superimposed French translation]

[Excerpts] Today, our colleague from the English service of Radio France International, Stella Charbi, brings us an interview with the new Ugandan leader Yoweri Museveni, an interview she obtained when she last reported from Uganda.

In the extract we have chosen Yoweri Museveni defines the role of the village committees, which have been set up in Uganda, and the role of what is now called the politicized police, two ideas introduced by the new regime. Here is Yoweri Museveni speaking with a translation by Pierre Kemner:

"They will be concerned in particular with screening those who want to join the army or the police. They can also operate as guard dogs, so to speak, to guard against abuses of people's rights by officials. They can deal with problems concerning their villages. Incidentally, there is quite a lot to be done in the villages themselves. This requires an army and a police force who know what its role is and why. On a national level, they will have to know who the enemy is and why. They will have to know who their friends are and why, because this awareness will enable them to distinguish between good and evil instead of being blind tools in the hands of those who want to use them."

Yoweri Museveni seems to be very hard on his African neighbors. He believes, in fact, that the African countries abandoned

Uganda twice, under Amin's regime and President Obote's regime. He makes an appeal to them on the respect necessary for human rights:

"Because they did not speak out against the wrongs of the Obote and Amin regimes. It is all very well to talk about noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries, but this cannot be the case where human lives are involved. When a regime starts killing its own citizens, then it is no longer a matter of internal affairs, it is an international affair, a human affair that is the responsibility of all other human beings. To remain silent about such a phenomenon on the grounds of not wishing to interfere in internal affairs is quite simply hypocrisy or collusion. I would like African leaders to respect the rights of the citizens of their own countries, African countries. This is how we will be able to increase our moral strength in our attitude toward South Africa. Without respecting the rights of our own citizens, we have no moral authority to speak out against South Africa."

## Museveni Visits Front Battle Lines in North

*EA231737 Dar es Salaam External Service in English*
*1600 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] Kampala: The president of Uganda, Mr Yoweri Museveni, has been visiting the front line in the north of the country, where the National Resistance Army has been fighting the forces of the oustedgovernment of Tito Okello. After a series of (?quick) successes in the south and east, the NRA forces are advancing more slowly into the heartland of Mr Okello.

Reports say the NRA is now close to the northern town of Lira, the home area of ousted President Milton Obote. According to the reports, in a battle between NRA soldiers and soldiers of the ousted government in the town, 40 UNLA [Uganda National Liberation Army] soldiers were killed. Two NRA soldiers were also killed in the battle.

## CAMEROON

### President Receives Belgian Trade Official

*AB212126 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] President Paul Biya this afternoon received in audience at State House Belgian secretary of state for external trade, Mr Etienne Knoops. Mr Knoops, who is on a working visit to the country, told the press that cooperation ties between Belgium and Cameroon were on a good footing as can be seen from various Belgian projects in the country. He made particular reference to the construction of the Yaounde general reference hospital which is undertaken by Belgium and intimated further that his country would soon start work other projects, namely the Bamenda omnisports stadium and water supply projects in certain urban areas.

### President Biya Leaves for U.S. Visit

*AB231457 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] The head of state, his excellency Paul Biya, and Madame Jeanne Irene Biya left Yaounde this morning for a friendly and working visit to the United States of America. The visit is at the invitation of the President of the United States of America, Ronald Reagan.

## CAR

### UN Economic Commission Session Begins 21 Feb

*AB221553 Paris AFP in French 1126 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] Bangui, 22 Feb (AFP) — The ninth session of the council of ministers of the member states of the Multinational Programming and Operational Center of the UN Economic Commission for Central Africa (Mulpoc) began in Bangui on Friday, it was learned in the CAR capital on Saturday. The opening ceremony, which was presided over by Joseph Yodoyman, the Chadian minister of planning and national reconstruction and current chairman of the Mulpoc council of ministers, took place in the presence of delegates from Cameroon, Congo, Gabon, the CAR and the ECA deputy executive secretary, Tchouta-Moussa.

The council, it was specified, will review Mulpoc's achievements in 1985 and will give new orientations with a view to strengthening multiform cooperation within the subregion. The Equatorial Guinea and Sao Tome and Principe delegates were not present in Bangui.

#### Meeting Ends 22 Feb

*AB231652 Paris AFP in French 1531 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] Bangui, 23 Feb (AFP) — The ninth ministerial meeting of the member states of the Multinational Programming and Operational Center (Mulpoc) for Central Africa of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) ended in Bangui on Saturday. The meeting adopted proposals to include women in the development process and to create a council to coordinate transportation in Central Africa.

The current Mulpoc chairman for Central Africa, Guy Darlan, CAR minister of planning, expressed satisfaction with the results of the meeting which was attended by representatives of five member states (Congo, Gabon, Chad, Cameroon, and the CAR), as well as by observers from regional and international organizations.

## CHAD

### President Denies Asking For Sudanese Mediation

*AB241310 Paris AFP in French 1144 GMT 24 Feb 86*

[Excerpt] Ndjamena, 24 Feb (AFP) — Chadian President Hissein Habre has not asked for the Sudanese Government's mediation in the conflict between Chad and Libya, it was learned Monday in Ndjamena from informed sources. President Habre certainly sent several envoys recently to Africa to explain the conflict between Chad and Libya, but did not ask for Sudanese mediation, it was specified.

### Authorities Present Libyan Prisoners to Press

*AB212032 Paris AFP in French 1902 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] Ndjamena, 21 Feb (AFP) — The Chadian authorities today in Ndjamena presented to the international press two Libyan soldiers captured on 14 February during the Oum Chalouba Kalait fighting (northern Chad). According to Chadian Minister of Information Mahamat Soumaila, another five Libyans were killed during the fighting which took place on 11-14 February.

The two men — Captain Arabi Abdou Salam Ramadan, aged 31, black, born at Zaouya (40 km from Tripoli), and Sergeant Abdallah Ahmed Mohamed, born in 1961 at Missourata, white — could only speak Arabic; so their statements were translated by a Chadian interpreter. Capt Ramadan stated that he and the sergeant were "technical advisers put at the disposal" of the troops of the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT) of Mr Goukouni. According to him, they were the only Libyans in Oum Chalouba during the fighting. "We arrived there behind the Chadian troops. The fighting was only carried out by Chadians." He further said: "I only obeyed my superiors' orders." Sergeant Abdallah, who was Mr Ramadan's driver when they were captured, specified for his part that he had been a sergeant of the Libyan Army since 1981. He was wounded in the hands and suffered afacial contusion.

According to the two men, the operation on Oum Chalouba Kalait had been in preparation for 45 days. They also said that their Libyan chief was Colonel Abdou Halim Issa. Capt Ramadan added that the Libyans present in the GUNT army were "only military advisers charged with training."

The Chadian authorities say the Libyans are participating directly in the fighting, particularly their aviation, signals, and artillery. The fighting at Oum Chalouba Kalait has been the most important in the area of the 16th parallel since the resumption of hostilities between government troops and troops supporting Goukouni Oueddei. The fighting ended a few days ago and the French military buildup codenamed Epervier [Sparrow-Hawk] is almost completed. The buildup essentially comprises the Air Force and has only been set up in the region of the capital.

### Libyan-Trained POW's Presented to Press

*AB241050 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French*
*1845 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Excerpt] The fact that Libya is the architect and author of the war in Chad no longer needs to be proved. Since the launching of the new Libyan aggression against Kouba Olanga, Koro Toro, Oum Chalouba Kalait, and Zigey, the proof has been established. Chadian authorities, who have never stopped proving this Libyan aggression, transported Libyan prisoners of war and their mercenaries from the war front to Ndjamena, where they were presented to national and international reporters. This latest illustration of the truth took place this morning with the presentation of several prisoners of war taken recently in the Borkou-Ennedi-Tibesti [BET] before journalists.

During the meeting it became evident that the recruitment of mercenaries into the Libyan Army was carried out from posts either in Nigeria, Benin, or in Libya itself. Asked about their fighting on the Libyan side, the prisoners said Tripoli [words indistinct] actually intends annexing our country, the whole country. The Libyans are so resolutely determined to annex our country that heavy weapons and armored cars were brought to arsenal bases. These heavy weapons were brought to the BET from Europe via Libya.

This morning during the presentation of the prisoners of war to the journalists, our reporter, Gonta Logossou, interviewed two of these mercenaries who are Chadians in the pay of Libya. They are Mbaye Namdouka, a master corporal, and Mahamat Yohana Jon, former soldier in the French Army and administrative secretary since 1965. Here is the interview conducted by Gonta Logossou.

[Begin recording] [Namdouka] My name is Mbaye Namdouka.
[Logossou] Where were you born?
[Namdouka] I was born in Lebali in 1950.
[Logossou] In what year were you recruited into the Chadian Army?
[Namdouka] I was recruited into the Chadian Army in 1973.
[Logossou] How did you get to Libya?
[Namdouka] I went to Libya to visit a brother. Two or 3 days later, some people came to talk to us....
[Logossou, interrupting] Who were these people? Were they Chadians or Libyans?
[Namdouka] They were Chadians.
[Logossou] Can you give their identity?
[Namdouka] They were Chadians, but I don't know their names.
[Logossou] What were they? Were they soldiers or civilians?
[Namdouka] There were soldiers as well as civilians.
[Logossou] Since you say you are a former corporal of the Chadian Army, you should be in a position to know your officers.
[Namdouka] I know the name of one captain, Nieke, and there is one I think he is a trader, but I have forgotten his name. I think he is called Ousmane.
[Logossou] Is that all? Just Ousmane?
[Namdouka] It is only this name that comes to mind.
[Logossou] Then you went on to Benin?
[Namdouka] We went on to Benin, and they collected some people in town and....
[Logossou, interrupting] What year was that?
[Namdouka] It was in (?May) 1983. [passage indistinct]
[Logossou] How many Chadians were there?
[Namdouka] In all, 126 Chadians.
[Logossou] In what Libyan town did you receive your training?
[Namdouka] They took us to Sabha, but not in downtown Sabha. It was about 20 km from Sabha, called Imatravars where we were given basic training.
[Logossou] Were you not with the Libyan legion which attacked the northern part of the country in 1983?
[Namdouka] In 1983, we were still under training. We had 4 months of training, and in the 5th month we were sent to Faya [Largeau]. We spent 1 week in Faya-Largeau and we were sent to Tripoli where we spent 1 year. [end recording]

### Bardai Radio Condemns Diouf Approval of French Moves

*AB232056 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio*
*in French 1830 GM23 Feb 86*

[Station commentary]

[Text] We have just learned that President Abdou Diouf, current OAU chairman has approved of the new French intervention. If the Senegalese head of state made this statement in his capacity as president of Senegal, then there is nothing surprising about this statement, since as everyone is aware, Senegal has been following in the wake of French imperialism in Africa since the colonial era. On the other hand, if Abdou Diouf made this statement in his capacity as current OAU chairman, then this statement is not only unfair and unfortunate, but it also worries us about the very future of the OAU.

In fact, through Senegal, France is indirectly presiding over the future of the pan-African organization. Consequently, it is not surprising that the Ndjamena group and their foreign masters -- who sabotaged the OAU's intervention in the Chadian issue -- have asked for the inclusion of the Chadian issue on the agenda of the upcoming OAU foreign ministers' conference. French imperialism and reactionaryism will not succeed in regaining diplomatically what they have lost militarily.

### Bardai Radio: Habre Will Fall Despite French Aid

*AB232206 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio*
*in French 1800 GMT 23 Feb 83*

[Station commentary]

[Text] Are Paris' proteges capable of drawing their lessons from the history of the liberation of people from the imperialist and reactionary yoke? In their confrontation with the Vietnamese, Algerian, and Nigerian peoples, were the French imperialists able to succeed? Also in Chad, in spite of France's military intervention on the side of their strawmen, the French imperialists will never be able to defeat the liberation struggle of the Chadian people.

The transformation of Ndjamena airport into a French military base, the French Jaguar planes — real flying cardboard boxes according to a leader of the National Liberation Army — the tanks, and other crude missiles cannot save the shameful Ndjamena regime and prevent its fall.

They have set up this operation without being aware of the fact that our ancestors have already set the liberation process in motion and it is our duty to complete it. The Mitterrand group must take into account the determination of the Chadian people to refuse the division of th[illegible] territory. The stand of our heroic people which was forcefully asserted in the press communique issued by the presidency of the Transitional National Union Government on 19 February, has been concretized on the battlefield with the victorious crossing of the shameful line drawn by the French imperialists on the indivisible territory of Chad. Moreover, the liberation struggle will not stop in the middle of the road. As the press communique issued by the Ministry of Information said, instead of intimidating the martyred people of Chad, the imperialist occupation of Chad is merely giving a real meaning to their freedom fight.

On the new French operation, one can say that like Manta, [words indistinct] and other interventions, it can neither protect French interests in Chad, nor save their watchmen.

## Bardai Radio: GUNT To Return Body of French Officer

*AB232125 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1830 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Excerpt] The body of Major Galopin [French negotiator], who was assassinated in 1975 upon Hissein Habre's orders, will be returned in the forthcoming days to the French Government, to his parents.

This humanitarian gesture was decided upon by Comrade Goukouni Oueddei, chairman of the Supreme Council of the Revolution, and president of the Transitional National Union Government. The handing over of the body of the French officer will take place in the presence of foreign journalists.

## BURKINA FASO

### Congo's Sassou-Nguesso Addresses Public Meeting

*AB211245 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 20 Feb 86*

[Excerpt] Since this morning, the whole Burkinabe capital has been lively due to the working and friendly visit which President Denis Sassou-Nguesso of the People's Republic of Congo is paying to our country. The delegation, which arrived in Ouagadougou at about 1300, includes notably the head of state's wife and artists like Zao and Pamelo Munka. It was at 1700 that the meeting began at the 4 August Stadium. This meeting was a rendezvous of give and take, a rendezvous of frank and sincere dialogue. This evening's meeting made it possible to exchange the experiences of two revolutions, those of Congo and Burkina Faso.

In his speech, the comrade president of Burkina Faso [Captain Thomas Sankara] recalled the long-standing relations between the two countries but stressed the fact that this was the first time the Congolese leadership has been represented at such a high level. The captain and president then paid tribute to the former Congolese president, Marien Ngouabi, who died prematurely before having the happiness of knowing about the Burkinabe revolution. He also saluted the presence of Mrs Antoinette Nguesso and of Mrs Bongi, the wife of the Congolese prime minister.

As for President Denis Sassou-Nguesso, the man of concrete actions, he conveyed the militant and revolutionary greetings of the People's Republic of Congo to the Burkinabe people and thanked them for their militant reception. He then severely criticized apartheid which in itself constitutes a great challenge to our century. He specified: We have come to witness on-the-spot with all humility the exciting experiment of Burkina Faso. The Congolese president also hailed our people's courage which is being demonstrated by the difficult struggles we are waging in many fields, such as the struggle against drought and for the completion of the (Kamboro) railroad project. The experiment taking place here in Burkina Faso constitutes as encouragement for Congo.

[Begin Sassou-Nguesso recording] The challenge of the century now facing the whole of Africa is that of apartheid. Imagine that in this 20th century, many millions of men are being treated like animals. Imagine that it is the very people who talk of human rights and in the name of human rights who are the first champions of this most odious system! We saw them rising up against fascism and nazism. We saw them utilizing the most powerful means to crush fascism.

It is astonishing to observe that they fail to adopt the same attitude toward the situation prevailing in southern Africa in general and particularly in South Africa. What is worse is that officially, openly, and with great media publicity, a country which speaks in the name of human rights is receiving one of the well-known traitors, Jonas Savimbi. It has officially decided to give million of dollars and weapons to Jonas Savimbi so that he may openly attack the government of an independent African country which is a member of the OAU and the United Nations. It is astonishing to know that there is no general disapproval of this situation. Rather, there is culpable silence here and there and almost everywhere! Comrades, these are the challenges posed to the African peoples and which we must meet. [end recording]

After the meeting at the 4 August Stadium, our illustrious guest is now taking part in a reception given in his honor by the president of Burkina Faso.

## GAMBIA

### Foreign Minister Leaves for Freetown, Lagos

*AB221441 Paris AFP in French 1335 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] Banjul, 22 Feb (AFP) — The Gambian minister of foreign affairs, Lamin Kiti Jabang, left Banjul on Saturday [22 Feb] for Freetown and Lagos, according to an official source. In Freetown, Mr Jabang is expected to hold talks with the Iranian ambassador on the Iraqi-Iranian conflict, the same source specified. The Gambian head of state, Sir Dawda Jawara, is the chairman of the Islamic Peace Committee charged with finding a peaceful solution to the conflict. He recently launched an appeal for a cease-fire.

In Lagos, the Gambian foreign minister will deliver a message from the Gambian president to his Nigerian counterpart. The message is related to bilateral relations between the Gambia and Nigeria, the official source indicated.

### Ex-Officials Form New Government Opposition Party

*AB220832 Paris AFP in English 0808 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] Banjul, Feb 22 (AFP) — Gambia's one time Vice President Assan Musa Camara and two former cabinet ministers said here Friday [21 February] they had formed the Gambia People's Party as an opposition group.

The ex-ministers are Lamin Saho (attorney general) and Howsoon Semega Janneth (information).

Mr Camara and Mr Saho were MP's of the ruling People's Progressive Party (PPP) until they resigned from it earlier this month. Mr Saho said at the time that the PPP was no longer a proper party, but a "one man show", because party leader Sir Dawda Jawara, Gambia's president, was taking decisions on his own without consulting anyone.

The three dissidents, in a communique read on state radio, said they were acting in the name of a standing committee of the new party, and that a consultative assembly would be held soon to set out the party's policies. Official opposition to the ruling PPP comes currently from the National Convention Party, which holds three of the 35 seats in parliament. Five are held by independents.

## GHANA

### Bulgarian Delegation Arrives for Visit

*AB232021 Accra Domestic Service in English*
*1800 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] A Bulgarian delegation arrived in Accra today to begin a 2-day visit to Ghana as part of a six-nation African tour. The 2-member team is led by the deputy minister for foreign affairs, Mr Lyubomir Popov. He told newsmen that the members would hold talks with the government on bilateral cooperation between Ghana and Bulgaria.

They will also discuss political, economic, and cultural, as well as educational matters. Mr Popov said both countries can further develop their traditional relations for their mutual benefit.

The delegation has already been to Guinea and Senegal.

### PLO Envoy Delivers 'Arafat Message to Rawlings

*AB211809 Accra Domestic Service in English*
*1300 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] The leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization, Yassir 'Arafat, has sent a special message to the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] chairman, Flight Lieutenant Rawlings.

The message was delivered to the secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah, in Accra today by the PLO ambassador to Nigeria, Samir Baker. The contents of the message are not known. They are, however, believed to focus on strengthening relations between Ghana and the organization.

In brief discussions, Dr Asamoah said the envoy's visit provides an opportunity for discussing matters of interest between the PLO and Ghana. He said Ghana believes in the aspirations of the PLO with special reference to their right to self-determination.

The secretary recalled that Ghana has refused to reestablish diplomatic relations with Israel, and this policy would continue until Israel shows her desire for a change.

Mr Baker, on his part, noted that Ghana has always supported the struggle of the Palestinian people.

He said Africa and the Arab world must cooperate and unite against their common enemy supported by imperialism who continue to occupy Arab territory, Namibia, Angola, and apartheid South Africa. Mr Baker promised to keep the PNDC chairman informed of developments in the Middle East.

Speaking to newsmen later, he said unless the United States stops treating the Palestinian issue as a refugee problem, there would be no peace of solution to the problem.

The PLO will therefore not accept UN Resolution 342 which recognizes Palestinians as refugees.

## LIBERIA

### Five Witnesses Qualify for Johnson-Sirleaf Trial

*AB212124 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English*
*2000 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] Five state witnesses were today qualified by Criminal Court A to testify before the Grand Jury for the subsequent indictment of Mrs Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf who was detained on charges of treason. Mr Jacob Nemlin, asssistant for police director for operation James Karpeh, Mrs Dorin Helen Cooper, Francis Kaifai, and Louis Kerley were qualified today upon the request of the prosecution. Court sources say following the testimonies of the five state witnesses, the grand jury is expected to decide based on the evidences adduced; whether the case would be forwarded to court for prosecution.

## MALI

### Moussa Traore Returns From Paris 20 Feb

*AB210915 Bamako Domestic Service in French*
*0700 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] General Moussa Traore, president of the republic, returned to Bamako last night [20 February] from Paris where he participated in the first summit confernece of French-speaking countries.

On his arrival in Bamako, the president was welcomed by General Amadou Baba Diara, deputy secretary general of the party and minister of state for planning. Present at the welcoming ceremony were members of the Central Executive Bureau, the government, the National Assembly, and the diplomatic corps accredited to Bamako.

### Discusses Situation in Chad

*AB211744 Bamako Domestic Service in French*
*1500 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Excerpts] The Congolese head of state, Colonel Denis Sassou-Nguesso, is expected in Bamako tomorrow at 1100 for a 2-day working and friendly visit to Mali.

It should be recalled that in October 1984, Congo organized a reconciliation meeting for all the Chadian warring factions, and the recent OAU summit has asked this country to continue its mediation efforts. According to President Moussa Traore, who actively contributed to the efforts toward peace in Chad, reconciliation is the only solution to the conflict. He disclosed this to our reporter Daouda Ndiaye.

[Begin Traore recording] I was personally surprised by the new development in the situation in Chad, since precisely on 2 February, 1986, I received a delegation led by (Rafik), the minister of national defense of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT], which came for advice in search of a solution for lasting peace. We did not fail to give the GUNT (?necessary) advice and invite it to contact the authorities in Ndjamena as soon as possible whenever they want so that this situation of no peace and no war can end. And on 10 February, we learned that the GUNT forces attacked the positions of the Ndjamena Government troops, and that in retaliation, France is said to have bombed Ouadi Doum runway, and that Libya, also in retaliation, is said to have bombed the Ndjamena runway. All that is painful, because after all, (?the Chadians are the victims) not Malians, and this is what I have to tell Chadians, the GUNT and the Ndjamena authorities. This situation cannot leave Mali indifferent, since at all the African meetings we will examine the issue. I think that Africans have to mobilize all their energies to face the situation so that African bloodwill be shed no more. Initiatives have been taken and certainly, we will achieve concrete results. [end recording]

### Congolese Leader Sassou-Nguesso Arrives for Visit

*AB221433 Bamako Domestic Service in French*
*1300 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Excerpt] The president of the Republic of Congo, Colonel Denis Sassou-Nguesso, arrived in Bamako today for a 2-day working and friendly visit to Mali. He was welcomed by the president of the Republic, General Moussa Traore with whom were members of the Central Executive Bureau, the Cabinet and National Assembly. It should be stressed that during his visit, the Congolese head of state will hold talks with President Moussa Traore and they will both visit Segou.

## NIGERIA

### AFP Reports High Commissioner to UK Named

*AB241420 Paris AFP in English 1357 GMT 24 Feb 86*

[Text] Lagos, Feb 24 (AFP) — Nigeria has named the top civil servant in the Ministry of External Affairs as its new high commissioner (ambassador) to Britain, ending 19 months of diplomatic estrangement, a government newspaper reported today. The official, George Dove-Edwin, is the permanent secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, a post to which he was appointed in 1984. Previously he headed diplomatic missions in India, Japan, Sweden and France. There was no official confirmation of the appointment disclosed by the *DAILY TIMES* newspaper, which quoted unidentified sources. Mr Dove-Edwin, who was born in 1928, was said to be on vacation.

On February 11 London appointed Martin Ewans, 57, as high commissioner to Nigeria, one of Britain's largest trading partners and a former crown colony, ending a freeze which stemmed from the botched attempt to kidnap former Nigerian Transport Minister Umaru Dikko from his London home on July 5, 1984. Mr Wans is expected to arrive here Friday [28 Feb].

### Minister Announces Release of Coup Plotters

*AB211545 Lagos Domestic Service in English*
*1500 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] The minister of defense, Major General Domkat Bali,today confirmed that he had ordered the release of Group Captain Salaudeen Latinwo and and Group Captain David Okpeme who were among those suspected to have been involved in a coup plot.

Gen Bali told a Radio Nigeria correspondent in Lagos today that he had ordered the release of some others who had not been found guilty by the special military tribunal tyring the suspected coup plotters. The minister declined to tell our correspondent the exact number and names of the officers whose release had been ordered. He said, however, that the full findings of the investigating panel would be made public soon and that those ordered to be released were still being kept under close observation by their respective service chiefs.

Gen Bali announced last December that a plot to overthrow the Federal Government had been uncovered by the authorities. The minister of information and culture, Lieutenant Colonel Anthony Ukpo, later disclosed the names of the initial 14 suspected coup plotters, including Group Capt Salaudeen Latinwo and Group Capt David Okpeme.

### Government Amends Special Tribunal Treason Decree

*AB211230 Lagos Domestic Service in English*
*1200 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] The Federal Government has amended Section 5 of the Treason and Other Offenses Special Military Tribunal Decree 1986. According to a supplementary government *GAZETTE* released in Lagos, any ruling by the special military tribunal will be discussed by the Joint Chiefs of Staff within 14 days of the receipt of the findings.

In the same vain, the tribunal's sentence and the recommendations of the Joint Chiefs of Staff shall not be treated as final and binding until confirmed by the Armed Forces Ruling Council. Also the Jont Chiefs of Staff shall cause to be transmitted to the confirming authority its recommendations and the record of proceedings and findings of the special military tribunal. The decree took effect from the 6th of last month.

## SENEGAL

### President Diouf Returns From Paris Summit

*AB222206 Dakar Domestic Service in French*
*2000 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Excerpt] President Abdou Diouf returned to Dakar this evening from Paris where he attended the summit of French-speaking nations. He traveled on the same plane as President Joao Bernardo Vieira who stopped over in Dakar for 1 hour.

#### Interviewed on Chadian Conflict

*AB211120 Libreville Africa No.1 in French*
*0630 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] At the end of the francophone summit conference [in Paris] President Abdou Diouf talked about the Chadian conflcit in an exclusive interview he granted to Adama Gueye, correspondent of Africa No.1 in Paris.

[Begin recording] [Diouf] I have two things to say about this matter. First of all, I approve the French intervention because France is helping a country and a legitimate regime and government — President Hissein Habre's government which has been attacked. And this is at the request of that government. France helps its friends to maintain peace and stability within their borders. The second thing I have to say is that I think that this Chadian problem cannot be solved by force of arms but through political negotiations.

In this connection, I would like first of all to pay tribute to President El-Hadj Omar Bongo for the efforts he has made in favor of national reconciliation in Chad. We have noted the results and we rejoice over them. We congratulate him for them.

Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso, who has been mandated by the OAU to see to this task of reconciliation, has not remained inactive. He took some initiatives in liaison with the current chairman of the OAU.

I can now disclose to you that a few days before the start of this military operation, the Senegalese and Congolese foreign ministers — who had been mandated by their two presidents in the name of the OAU — were received by Colonel al-Qadhdhafi and later by Mr Goukouni Oueddei agreed to a meeting between him and President Hissein Habre to discuss political issues in order to find political solutions to the Chadian problems. I was very much surprised later to see Mr Goukouni Oueddei and his troops attacking President Habre's troops, the Chadian troops.

I simply want to tell you also that President Denis Sassou-Nguesso and I are continuing our efforts and we will discuss this problem in a few days in Dakar — not later than next Monday since President Sassou-Nguesso is coming to Senegal on a state visit. We will continue our efforts so that a meeting and negotiations may take place as soon as possible between the legitimate president of Chad and Mr Goukouni Oueddei, the leader of the opposition, assisted by his close advisers in order that we may achieve a political solution which alone can make it possible to safeguard the unity of Chad as well as the peace and stability of that country to ensure its reconstruction and development.

[Gueye] Do you think that the negotiation you are calling for will have great incidence since two of the parties involved — France and Libya — are not included?

[Diouf] President Sassou-Nguesso has been mandated by the OAU [words indisitnct] to promote national reconciliation between the citizens of Chad.

If there were no division between the citizens of Chad, there would have been no reason for the intervention by foreign powers. The fundamental problem, therefore, is national reconciliation between Chadians. And I will continue my efforts in liaison with President Denis Sassou-Nguesso in order to achieve this national reconciliation. [End recording]

## ANGOLA

### New Deputy Minister for Security Appointed

*MB221301 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, has sworn in in the [words indistinct] in Luanda today the new deputy minister for state security, Fernando Dias da Piedade dos Santos. As we previously announced, Colonel Mateus Paulo Dino Matross, former minister of state security, has been dismissed [words indistinct]. The new deputy minister will report directly to the president.

Fernando Dias da Piedade dos Santos was until yesterday deputy interior minister. Members of the party Central Committee and government attended the swearing-in ceremony.

## BOTSWANA

### Masire Says Diplomatic Talks With RSA Continuing

*MB211417 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1142 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] Gaborone, Feb 21, SAPA — Botswana President Quett Masire said diplomatic discussions to persuade South Africa to conduct its relations with other countries in a "more civilised" manner were continuing.

Dr Masire said Botswana's objective was to build mutual confidence and respect. "This is a difficult task for us because we are the aggrieved party," he said. "But it is important that South Africa should be persuaded to a more civilised conduct of its affairs and relations with other countries."

Dr Masire said he was convinced no sane government seriously believed it could go on attacking other countries simply because it had the resources to do so. "It is morally wrong, inadmissable, in international law to do so."

Botswana was trying to achieve better communication through diplomatic channels, he said.

### To Hold More Security Talks

*MB240700 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0656 GMT 24 Feb 86*

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 24, SAPA — South Africa and Botswana hold security talks in Gaborone tomorrow to follow up earlier talks held in Pretoria on February 5. This was confirmed today by a spokesman for the Department of Foreign Affairs.

The South African delegation will return to Pretoria tomorrow after the discussions.

## MOZAMBIQUE

### Maputo Without Electricity; Sabotage Possible

*LD232252 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 2100 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] The Mozambican capital has been without electricity since yesterday evening, just 3 days after the damage caused by the last Renamo sabotage was repaired. Radio Mozambique has been transmitting appeals this afternoon for all Mozambican electrical workers to report for duty. Commercial radio's correspondent in Maputo, Fernando Lima, contacted a short while ago by this newsdesk, reported that the Mozambican authorities are attributing the power cut to a serious fault in the Insolane substation. This is not to exclude, however, the possibility of sabotage by Renamo. Since the beginning of this year, Renamo has sabotaged the power lines between the South African power station at Komatipoort and Maputo twice.

## NAMIBIA

### SWAPO Leader Says U.S. Policy 'Catastrophe'

*PM211309 Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 11 Feb 86 p 9*

[Interview with SWAPO leader Sam Nujoma by Eva Elmsater: "The United States Is Backing the Wrong Horse in Africa" — date not given]

[Text] Lusaka — "We are not afraid that Angola will stop supporting us. President Eduardo dos Santos recently gave me a promise of continued support for SWAPO," Namibian nationalist movement leader Sam Nujoma told *AFTENPOSTEN* after the recent talks between the United States and Angola.

"Angola has a right to talk to whatever country it likes. We are simply grateful for its support," Nujoma said.

The price of giving a home to SWAPO is very high for Angola. South African troops carry out constant raids and occupy areas deep inside Angola. At the same time the UNITA guerrilla movement continues its attacks on the government's troops, now with support from the United States.

"U.S. policy in southern Africa is a catastrophe. It is one great contradiction, but we are not surprised. We have long been subjected to it. Without their interference the war in Namibia would not have gone on for so long," Nujoma said.

The United States is still in contact with all parties and the SWAPO leader confirmed that as recently as January he had talks with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Chester Crocker in Angola's capital, Luanda.

"He did not really have anything new to say. The U.S. support for Savimbi, which is worth $30 million, will not change anything. It will only delay Namibia's independence, not halt it. The United States is backing the wrong horse when it supports Savimbi," Sam Nujoma said.

The newest element in U.S. policy in southern Africa — inviting UNITA Leader Jonas Savimbi to Washington — led to sharp protests at the SADCC meeting in Harare and the Frontline States' meeting with the EEC in Lusaka recently. However, the EEC nations refused to condemn the U.S. invitation to Savimbi and the Frontline States had to produce their own statement.

The SWAPO leader is convinced that the economic crisis in South Africa will break the regime and that the cost of the war in Namibia is beginning to get too high.

"South Africa spends $3 million a day keeping 110,000 men in Namibia. We are fighting against the whole South African Army. It has recently built a new base on the other side of the border, so that it can send in fresh troops," Nujoma said.

The economic burden has made President Pieter W. Botha declare publicly that South Africa no longer derives any benefit from the war in Namibia and that it is ready to abandon Namibia.

"This is merely one of his maneuvers, one of the usual tricks he uses with the help of Reagan and the United States," the SWAPO leader said.

The struggle for Namibian independence has been going on for several decades and is still no closer to a solution. The political game surrounding Namibia continues to harden, and it is clear that SWAPO feels hard-pressed.

"Our war has not become more difficult. It is Pretoria which is trying to complicate the whole thing, but we know exactly how we will achieve our goal," Nujoma assured me.

However, recent South African attacks have had some success and UNITA is proclaiming new victories all the time. This is because South Africa has superior and more advanced arms.

"They will be driven back by the Angola Government Army, just as when Angola became independent," the SWAPO leader said.

## SOUTH AFRICA

### Bishop Tutu 'Booed, Jeered at' in Alexandra Stadium

*MB211816 Umtata Capital Radio in English*
*1900 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] Bishop Desmond Tutu has received an angry reaction from Alexandra township residents. The Anglican bishop was booed and jeered at when he addressed an estimated 30,000 people at a soccer stadium in the Johannesburg township. Bishop Tutu was reporting on the talks he had yesterday with government officials on the recent violence in Alexandra. Bishop Tutu said the government would consider their demands for the release of people detained during the rioting and the removal of police from the township. The crowd booed him and demanded the release of detainees immediately. Many people left the stadium before Bishop Tutu finished speaking, saying the talks between church leader and government officials were a failure.

### SACC Group Holds News Conference on Vlok Meeting

*MB211920 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1911 GMT*
*21 Feb 86*

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 21, SAPA — Had white people seen the reaction of Alexandra residents at the report back meeting on concessions won by the delegation of clergymen who held talks with government representatives yesterday, they would have besieged Parliament for change in this country, Reverend Peter Storey said today.

Speaking at a press conference after South African Council of Churches [SACC] and Alexandra Civic Association representatives reported back to 30,000 Alexandra residents this afternoon on talks in Cape Town, the churchmen said Alexandra residents expected more than the concessions won.

Mr Storey wished every white South African could have witnessed what "white arrogance" and apartheid had done to a generation. The community was not going to "stand apartheid and all its attendant evils," he said.

The country would not know how much it owed Bishops Desmond Tutu and Manas Buthelezi, and Mr Mike Beea, chairman of the Alexandra Civic Association, who addressed the crowd, he said. A "slender thread of leadership" enabled Bishop Tutu to get the community to disperse peacefully, he said.

Bishop Tutu said: "We cannot guarantee that the people have dispersed peacefully. We would be surprised if some of the people have not gone on the rampage."

The situation was "calm but very tense," according to Mr Beaa.

Bishop Buthelezi, president of the South African Council of Churches, said there were interjections from members of the audience in the Alexandra stadium who "expected more than we delivered."

"What the government regards as reform... in the black community .. that is regarded as a futile exercise."

Bishop Tutu told the news conference: "They wanted us to deliver all the goods — the state of emergency lifted, the army withdrawn and those detained released."

The group was granted a concession during the three hour meeting at the state president's Cape Town residence yesterday on the possible withdrawal of troops from the township.

Government representative, Mr Adriaan Vlok, who is the deputy minister of law and order, undertook that there would be further discussions with the churches on the lifting of the state of emergency and the removal of the South African Defence Force from townships.

Security forces kept a lower profile today than when they were deployed in great numbers in Alexandra on Tuesday, Mr Beea said. Other undertakings on specific grievances, outlined in a SACC statement, were:

— Mr Vlok undertook to use his influence to facilitate the issue of a permit allowing today's report-back meeting to take place.

— He promised local police would be asked to facilitate the burial of those who had died. "This was with the understanding that in the black community a funeral is always a community event," the statement said.

— Mr Vlok promised the request that detainees be released would get "the necessary attention." The statement said: "There was an understanding that such attention would include the possibility of simple release or a release into the custody of a body like a church in cases where charges were being investigated."

Mr Vlok would report to the state president, Mr P.W. Botha.

Mr Botha sent a message saying although he would have liked to have attended the meeting, prior commitments would not allow him to do so.

The SACC telexed a request for Thursday's meeting late on Wednesday afternoon and they did not regard Mr Botha's absence as a snub, the men said. They expressed surprise at the relaxed and friendly atmosphere at the talks.

"The exchanges were very frank. Most of the talking was from our side," Bishop Tutu said. "It was a very friendly meeting. Now I don't want to be euphoric but it certainly was not the kind of meeting we expected would take place."

### Tutu, Boesak's Use of Church Positions Questioned

*MB240644 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 24 Feb 86*

[Station commentary]

[Text] At what point does a religious leader, engaged in public affairs, find himself having gone beyond the legitimate grey area between them? More specifically, at what point does his primary loyalty to the moral imperatives imposed by his church shift to the politics of power with its opportunist compromises with principle? And at what point — surely Bishop Desmond Tutu and the Rev Allan Boesak must have asked themselves this — does he find himself systematically exploiting his religious status in the community in order to advance his political purposes?

By now, South Africa is accustomed to absurdities like the telegram sent to creditor bankers last week to try to prevent an agreement on the foreign debt issue. Naturally enough, the bankers, who have enough political insight and more than enough economic sense to recognize an implicit call for chaos, ignored the telegram and its demand for a combined effort to replace the government.

But that sortie by Bishop Tutu and Dr Boesak was merely fatuous. The disclosure later in the week of their attempt to manipulate an international aid donor is altogether more serious. It appears that the Coca-Cola company had been holding discussions with different groups in South Africa about its plans for establishing a trust fund of some 20 million rands for the advancement of black people. Evidently the main target was the improvement of education. In any event, it was a purely humanitarian gesture, of a kind that a church, concerned with the social conditions of its community, might be expected to welcome unconditionally.

Not, however, Bishop Tutu and Dr Boesak. They, assisted on this occasion by Prof Jakes Gerbel, rector-designate of the University of the Western Cape, have seen fit to impose specific political conditions on the granting of any such assistance to black South Africans. Coca-Cola, they have informed it in a joint memorandum, must threaten to withdraw from South Africa unless the government agrees to a list of political changes which they set out. It must also demand publicly that the government should engage in talks with the ANC. On the other hand, the company must exclude for its aid project certain figures not politically acceptable to Messrs Tutu, Boesak, and Gerbel. In what is described in news reports as an obvious reference to Chief Buthelezi and the Inkatha movement, it is warned not to involve persons or groups connected with the homelands.

The memorandum is virtually a political program. It sets out policies, lays down who may and who may not participate in major ventures affecting the community, and even ventures into the field of what levers of power should be used — in this case disinvestment — for achieving the political goals.

The most important lever available to Bishop Tutu and Dr Boesak is not mentioned since it is obvious to all. It is the power that is conferred on them by their positions of leadership in the church, to discredit and perhaps even destroy their aid project if their political demands are not met.

Whether or not there was any intention to convey such a threat, it is implied by the mere act of imposing political conditions. Indeed, these two clergymen should be answering some fundamental questions about where they stand.

### President's Council Holds Debate on Unrest

*MB211259 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1245 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] President's Council, Feb 21, SAPA — The issues that mattered to all people was feeding their families and providing them with shelter, and there was too much emphasis on political rights, Mr G.D. Bornman, Transvaal National Party [NP] member of the President's Council [PC], said today.

Speaking in the unrest debate, he said that what was important in a country was a strong government and a strong economy.

"If the Group Areas Act and the Population Registration Act are done away with overnight it would not help to provide houses for people who need them; only a strong economy can." The abolition of apartheid would not build schools, but the regional services councils would be able to do achieve this.

An attitude in which people would make use of all the opportunities available to them needed to be created.

"Those who decided to use opportunities to gain economic power are not doing it at the cost of others but rather through their own contribution," he said. "We hope the opportunity to speak to blacks will soon come about and be used."

Mr Bornman said Mr Robin Carlisle (PFP [Progressive Federal Party] member of the PF) had referred negatively to the state president's initiatives at the opening of Parliament as "hitting the deck like a lead balloon." None of these initiatives had been unfounded and they were putting into practice a total approach.

Mr J.J.N. van der Westhuyzen, NP member for Natal, said Mr Carlisle's argument that apartheid was at the bottom of all misery in the country was untrue because unrest in the country had always occurred in times of economic recession. Had it not been for apartheid, radical groups like the militant Poqo, which planned to kill all whites in the eastern and western Cape in the 1960's, would not have been foiled. Apartheid had made the continued settlement of whites in these areas possible.

Referring to the "war" between the Zulus and the Pondos in Natal, he said the underlying reason for the inter-tribal fighting was that Zulus felt the Pondos were taking their jobs.

The government needed to realise it was dealing with Third World elements who should be allowed to solve their own political and unrest issues in their own manner.

Mr N.F. Treurnicht (NP) said later in the debate that the police should use a "strong hand" against people who resorted to violence in South Africa. The government should look for ways to give the maximum amount of freedom to the greatest possible number of people in the country, but the immediate scrapping of apartheid was not the answer. This would create a vacuum which would be filled by propagators of violence and communists committed not to freedom but to the enslaving of all people. The government should not negotiate with these people and the police should use a strong hand against them. It was also important that white racism not be replaced by black racism, Mr Treurnicht said.

Mr P.C. Schoeman (PFP) said blacks no longer believed in constitutions. It was clear to blacks that the present constitution, with its fundamental principle of compulsory groupings, was a major cause of the present unrest. With its system of racial classification, the constitution ensured retention of power by whites. "Many blacks see violence as built into the system," he said, adding that all they wanted was their freedom.

## Reaction to Debt Rescheduling Agreement Reported

### ANC Condemns Agreement

*MB221225 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] The ANC of South Africa has described Western Bankers' complicity with the Pretoria regime as genocide and terrorism against that country's oppressed majority.

In a statement issued in Lusaka, the ANC international affairs director, Comrade John Makatini, condemned an agreement reached in London yesterday giving South Africa more time to repay its foreign debt. He said the bankers' decision to ignore pleas from the leaders of the black people in South Africa and from the international community not to help the Botha regime has made the bankers [word indinstinct] genocide and terrorism.

Comrade Makatini said Western [words indistinct] South Africa's puppets abroad. Under the agreement reached between South Africa and more than 30 European and American banks, Pretoria can spread repayment of $500 million of its $14 billion dollar debt over the next 12 months.

### Du Plessis Welcomes Agreement

*MB211237 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] The South African minister of finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, says yesterday's foreign debt agreement in London with creditor banks will have a positive effect on the South African budget.

Interviewed in Cape Town, Mr du Plessis said the feeling among the banks was that South Africa would be able to normalize its international position as well as its sociopolitical problems in the medium term.

He said the state president's speech at the opening of Parliament this year had created an atmosphere which had made yesterday's agreement possible. He added that South Africa was on the road to financial recovery.

Mr du Plessis said that South Africa was not in the same position as several other countries in South America as far as rescheduling of debts was concerned.

### PFP Finance Spokesman Comments

*MB211235 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1122 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 21, SAPA — The terms of South Africa's foreign debt agreement would not provide any long term assistance in solving the country's problems, the PFP finance spokesman, Mr Harry Schwarz, said today.

Reacting in Cape Town to news of the agreement reached in London between South African officials and the country's major international creditor banks, he said in a statement that there may be a degree of relief at the broad agreement. However, he said, it was only an interim settlement subject to periodic review and it would need further negotiation.

The statement by Swiss negotiator Dr Fritz Leutwiler that there was no question of South Africa asking for more money at this stage made it clear the real problems facing South Africa were being shelved.

"South Africa needs foreign capital in order to achieve the kind of growth required to make any meaningful impact on the need to create more employment opportunities," he said.

It was bad news if, without new capital, 700 million dollars had to be repaid in the next year, in addition to one and a half billion dollars outside the debt standstill, against a current surplus estimated at about the same amount. The payment of 1 per cent extra interest on the matured but not repaid debt would involve more foreign exchange.

"All that can relieve this situation is a renegotiation with individual banks for rollovers or, perhaps, other long term facilities.

"If there is to be any meaningful upswing in the economy one would expect imports to increase and this would exercise pressure on the current accout," he said.

"To commit the entire anticipated current account surplus for a year to the repayment of old debt without new facilities will make revival in the economy difficult, particularly where there are many uncertainties in respect of the extent of the surplus."

In any event, there was no formal rescheduling agreement, there were loose ends and, apart from the the major banks, there were still many others to be dealt with, Mr Schwarz said.

"What must be realised by our policy makers, and should be understood by those in the West who want South Africa to change without excessive further violence, is that the mode of change is related to the level of employment and the ability to provide equal social services, solve housing problems and other pressing needs.

"With the population increasing at a substantial rate, it is not possible for South Africa to generate the capital to do this.

"Not only the nature of the process of change will be effected by this, but also whether the post-apartheid society will, or will not, be part of the free democratic world or fall under other spheres of influence."

### Stals on Debt Technical Committee

*MB211828 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1700 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Excerpt] In London today representatives of the 30 major creditor banks involved in South Africa's debt standstill met to form the Technical Committee which is going to give further attention to the Leutwiler accord. Jerry Schuitema reports.

[Begin video][Schuitema][Words indistinct] developments today Dr Fritz Leutwiler sent his proposals to the 200 or so banks making up the remainder of 30 percent of the outstanding debt. Now this venue behind me of the meeting was kept a closely-guarded secret and this underlines an important feature of the new phase which the negotiations have entered, less in the public eye, less emotional, less political, and more technical. I spoke to Dr Chris Stals about the composition of the committee.

[Stals] The committee comes from banks in the United States, in the United Kingdom, in Switzerland, Germany, and France. This small technical group will meet very regularly during the next 6 weeks and it is the intention that the committee should now concentrate on the practical problems that may arise from the implication of the Leutwiler proposals.

[Schuitema] What will Dr Leutwiler's role be in future?

[Stals] Dr Leutwiler agreed yesterday at the request of the banks and of South Africa to continue to remain in the background as mediator. It is very likely that he will not be very active during the next few months, but when we come to the major review of the arrangement again next year he will again be the chairman and he will again take the lead.

[Schuitema] While yesterday's agreement is regarded as a step in the right direction, the general feeling is that there are still troubled waters ahead before the situation returns to normal. One of the problems that had to be faced is that only 30 of the major creditor banks was present at the meeting in London yesterday, leaving negotiation still to be concluded with another 350 smaller banks, a process that could take months.

### Buthelezi Rebuts Slabbert-P.W. Botha Comments

*MB211516 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0500 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] KwaZulu's chief minister has reacted sharply to the Van Zyl Slabbert-P.W. Botha tapes, in which the two leaders discussed Chief Buthelezi's role. More from Carmel Rickard in Durban.

[Rickard] Chief Buthelezi, who is in Germany at the moment, has released a lengthy and bitter response to the tapes. He said that in the tapes State President Botha and Dr Slabbert were acting, in his words, like two whites pontificating about an uppity, difficult kaffir. He described remarks that he could end up playing a role similar to that of Bishop Abel Muzorewa as balderdash, and accused Dr Slabbert of plunging a vicious barb into his back. He said while Dr Slabbert was descended from Afrikanerdom, he was descended from Zulu warriors, whom he then listed, and could therefore never play a Muzorewa role. He also slammed remarks made on the tape that he wanted to be the only bull in the kraal. He said he had already stated he would be prepared to serve under the ANC's Nelson Mandela if he were democratically elected.

### Inflation Rate Reaches 20.7 Percent in January

*MB211355 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1354 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 21, SAPA — South Africa's inflation rate rose to 20.7 per cent in January, 2.3 per cent above the all-time high reached in December last year, according to figures released in Pretoria today.

A statement by the Central Statistical Services said the consumer price indices [CPI] for the lower, middle and higher income groups increased by 18.7 per cent, 20.7 per cent and 21.3 per cent respectively from January 1985 to January 1986.

Average food prices again increased sharply — 4.4 per cent — compared with December 1985, and 19.0 per cent compared with January 1985.

"Large monthly food price increases mainly occurred in the urban areas of Cape Town (5.9 per cent), Port Elizabeth (5.5 per cent), Klerksdorp (5.5 per cent), and the OFS [Orange Free State] goldfields (7.3 per cent)," the statement said.

Commodities showed a rise of 23.7 per cent compared with January 1985. "While services show an increase of only 14.7 per cent for the corresponding period."

The CPI for all income groups in January stood at 213.8 (base 1980: 100), compared with 207.4 in December 1985, and 177.1 a year ago.

The index for food reached 214.7, up from 205.7 the previous month and 180.4 a year ago, while the commodity index rose to 211 compared with 203.0 in December and 170.7 in January 1985.

The year-on-year inflation rates by income groups for January are:

— Lower income group: inflation rate of 18.7 per cent (CPI: January 209.3, December 201.6, January 1985, 176.3).

— Middle income group: 20.7 per cent (CPI: January 216.1, December 209.3, January 1985, 179.0).

— Higher income group: 21.3 per cent (CPI: January 213.8, December 208.0, January 1985, 176.2).

## Poll States Blacks, Indians, Coloreds, Back Mandela

*MB211139 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1139 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] Durban, Feb 21, SAPA — The majority of blacks, Indians and coloureds want Nelson Mandela as the head of state in a non-racial South Africa, according to findings of a survey released by the Institute for Black Research in Durban today.

The survey also found that blacks would prefer Dr F. van Zyl Slabbert as head of a one-man, one-vote state than the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, or the KwaZulu chief minister, Chief Mangosuth Buthelezi.

The United Democratic Front emerged as the organisation with the greatest support, with the African National Congress a close second.

The Progressive Federal Party came fifth in the popularity stakes after the third-placed Azania People's Organisation and the Socialists.

Professor Fatima Meer, director of the institute, said Mandela would probably have received more than the 17.7 percent support if the survey had been done at the time he was not portrayed as a dying man.

Bishop Desmond Tutu was second with 16.6 percent, Dr Allan Boesak third with 13.3 percent, and Dr Slabbert fourth with 12.5 percent.

Prof Meer said that for the first time the ANC leader, Mr Oliver Tambo, appeared on the popularity list (fifth) with 10.1 percent as well as Mr Walter Sisulu (sixth) with 7.1 percent. Then came Mr P.W. Botha with 4.6 percent, followed by Chief Buthelezi with 4.1 percent, the Rev Allan Hendrickse and Mr Saths Cooper with 1.4 percent, and Mr A. Rajbansi with 0.7 percnet.

The survey was held in the Transvaal, Natal, and eastern Cape.

In reply to the question: "What sort of parliament would you like to see in South Africa?" 67.5 percent said a non-racial unitary state. Nine percent wanted a unitary state with proportional presentation by race.

The popularity of the UDF was 23.5 percent, the ANC 20, AZAPO 10.1, the Socialists 6.7, the PFP 6,4, Inkatha 3.5, the National Party 2.7, and the Pan-African Congress 2.6.

## Mandela Expects No Release 'Within Weeks, Months'

*MB221124 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1059 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 22, SAPA — Jailed African National Congress leader, Nelson Mandela, does not expect to be released within weeks or even months, his daughter Zindzi said yesterday after she and her mother Mrs Winnie Mandela, visited him in Pollsmoor Prison.

She said her father wanted to end speculation that he was to be released soon. "There is nothing new."

Mr Mandela and her daughter arrived at D.F. Malan Airport yesterday morning accompanied by General Olusegun Obasanjo, of the commonwealth eminent persons group. He did not visit Mr Mandela.

## Black Township To Be Established in Mariannhill

*MB211329 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1328 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 21, SAPA — The government has decided to "recognise" the permanence of blacks living in the greater Mariannhill area, near Pinetown in Natal.

This emerged from a joint statement in Cape Town today by the minister of constitutional development and planning, Mr Chris Heunis, and the ministers of local governemnt in the Houses of Representatives and Delegates, Mr David Curry and Mr Baldeo Dookie.

They said the St Wendolins Ridge, Klaarwater and intervening areas would be developed into a black township within the republic "as a matter of urgency." The decision was made "in the interests of orderly development."

While residents in the area would be allowed to own land, the ministers emphasised that "this decision will not prejudice ongoing negotiations concerning the search for equitable solutions to the overall development problems of the sub-region."

### Malcolm Fraser, Nigerian Walk on 'Whites Only' Beach

*MB240606 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1923 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] Port Elizabeth, Feb 23, SAPA — The presence of a large contingent of security forces — SA Police and Defence Force members — at Port Elizabeth's whites only beaches yesterday has been slammed by two of the city's MP's who said it could not have been more badly timed.

A police spokesman described the presence as "a normal patrol."

The security forces presence coincided with a visit to Port Elizabeth by former Australian prime minister Mr Malcolm Fraser, and Nigeria's General Olysegun Obasanjo, who walked along Kings Beach and photographed the "whites only" signs. Both are members of the Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group (EPG).

Mr John Malcomess, PFP MP for Central, said the "latest debacle to defend integrated beaches" while the EPG was in Port Elizabeth would give the EPG "most unfortunately but nevertheless a true picture of apartheid in South Africa," he said.

Security force members were evident in armoured vehicles while others were seen patrolling along the waters edge. Their presence was apparently related to the possibility of black employees of General Motors [GM] visiting the beaches after GM last week offered to support "legally and financially" any of its 3,000 black employees prosecuted for swimming at the city's "whites only" beaches.

However, a police spokesman maintained that the patrols were normal procedure and said the police were not aware that the EPG delegation would be visiting the city. The beaches had not been guarded to protect them, he said.

The spokesman described the presence of the security forces as "a normal patrol. We have often patrolled that specific area in the past," he said.

Asked who had been responsible for the decision to patrol the beachfront yesterday, he said he did not know and doubted if a specific decision to patrol the beaches had been taken because patrols were normal.

For months the Port Elizabeth City Council has been waging a battle to retain "whites only" beaches, a topic which will be debated again at a full council meeting on Thursday.

Mr Andrew Savage, the PFP MP for Walmer, said today the council was seriously threatening the prosperity and stability of the city.

"The council will have to make up its mind whether Port Elizabeth is going to have employment or whether it's going to have segregated beaches.

"At this time in the 20th century the international world is not prepared any more to do business with people who preserve an antiquated and vicious system of segregation which denies people the ability to use a natural amenity on the colour of their skin."

General Motors' managing director, Mr Bob White, said he preferred not to comment about the presence of the security forces along the beachfront. "I doubt if any of our employees would have gone to the beaches over the weekend."

He emphasised that GM's pledge to pay the legal expenses of any of its black employees prosecuted for using the "whites-only" beaches was not aimed at encouraging people to break the ordinance prohibiting blacks from using the beaches, but at encouraging the city council to change the ordinance.

### Alexandra Provisional Death Toll at 46

*MB211928 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1927 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 21, SAPA — An Alexandra community leader said today the provisional death toll in Alexandra had reached 46.

Definite figures would hopefully be available on Sunday, said Mr Mike Beea, chairman of the Alexandra Civic Association, after a South African Council of Churches and community delegation reported back to Alexandra residents on talks with government representatives.

Police have put the official toll at 22. About 28 people remained unccounted for, Mr Beea alleged.

Confusion arose because the township population were afraid to come forward and furnish information, he said at a press conference in Johannesburg.

### Strikes Spread to Two More Stores Near Pretoria

*MB211000 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0946 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 21, SAPA — Strikes have spread to another two Pick n Pay stores in the Pretoria area after yesterday's unsuccessful negotiations between the Retail Allied Workers Union and the stores regional managment. The strikes spread to the Gezina and Doringkloof Pick n Pay branches.

Negotiations centered on the alleged breach of a recognition agreement. This followed the dismissal of two shop stewards, Mr

Aaron Setlema and Mr Conrad Matabane on Wednesday for labour unrest.

Mr Setlema alleged yesterday he was assulted by an employee of the Verwoerdburg Pick n Pay branch, who was reinstated after an official inquiry. Mr Setlema expressed his anger at the action. He said none of the witnesses of the alleged offence had been called upon at the inquiry.

Union leader Mr Donsie Khumalo said management rejected proposals submitted yesterday calling for the reinstatement of the workers and dismissal of the other employee.

Regional manager, Mr Nick Els, said the committee could not unconditionally dismiss and reinstate workers but had to follow procedures. He said, although the negotiations deadlocked yesterday, revised proposals would be open for negotiation this morning.

They disapproved of Mr Kumalo's alleged threats that he would incite further strikes if they did not agree to the unions proposals.

The union revised its proposals and negotiations will continue today.

### Police Prohibit Memorial Service in Soweto

*MB220543 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] The divisional commissioner of the police in Soweto, Brigadier Jan Coetsee, has prohibited a memorial service planned by the Soweto Youth Congress which was to have been held in Soweto tomorrow. The banning takes effect at 0800 this morning and ends at 0800 on Monday morning. The banning applies to the municipal areas of Soweto, Deep Meadow, Dobsonville, Lenasia, Eldorado Park, and Noordgeseg situated in the magisterial districts of Johannesbrug and Roodepoort.

The prohibition is imposed in terms of the Public Safety Act.

### Detained AZAPO Members Announce Food Boycott

*MB240536 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1603 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 24, SAPA — Fifteen members of the Azanian Peoples Organisation [AZAPO] detained under the state of emergency plan to start a food boycott at Modder Bee Prison near Benoni on the East Rand on Monday as "a token of protest" and to seek legal assistance.

A "declaration" signed by the 15, smuggled out of Modder Bee and released by AZAPO, said they were committing themselves to an "indefinite food boycott" in protest against "continued white minority domination" and "national oppression and economic exploitation."

Expounding the principles of the "Azanian Peoples Manifesto," the 15 detainees are demanding:

— "The right to work; the right to form trade unions that will heighten revolutionary workers consciousness; the establishment of a democratic, anti-racist worker Republic of Azania where the interests of the worker shall be paramount through workers control; state provision of free and compulsory education for all; development of one national progressive culture; state provision of adequate and decent housing; state provision of free health, legal, recreational and other community services; and the land and all that belongs to it shall be wholly owned and controlled by the Azanian people."

To this end they called for the dismantling of apartheid; transfer of power unconditionally; and the lifting of the state of emergency.

### Khayelitsha Women March on Development Board Offices

*MB211854 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1853 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 21, SAPA — Over 800 women from Khayelitsha today marched on the Western Cape Administration Board offices in the township to present their grievances on housing to board officials.

More than 30 percent of the township's residents have been refusing to pay rent since November last year in protest against the poor state of their housing.

The march follows notices by the board requiring the women to report to the board offices but officials agreed only to meet a delegation of six people. The six leaders of the women, who asked not to be identified, said their grievances were that their houses were beginning to develop cracks in the walls and roofs and doors had large gaps where rain and windblown sand poured in.

Many of the one-roomed, one-kitchen and one-lavatory core houses had as many as 13 people living in one room.

They said they paid R20 a month for rent as compared to Guguletu where the rent on a four-roomed hosue was R18.67 and in Langa where rent on a two-roomed house was R8 a month.

Repeated complaints to the board meet with the response "you must fix your houses yourself," the women said.

"Our bedrooms are so small you cannot even separate them into two rooms. I live here with my husband, my two daughters who are 17 and 18 and my son who is 12," one woman said, adding that "many men are divorcing their wives because they cannot live together properly like man and wife."

Her neighbours' tiny bedroom accommodates parents, six children, the husband of one daughter and three grandchildren, a total of 12 people in a room which is roughly the size of a small study in a normal suburban home.

"We don't want to boycott the rents, but the only thing we can do is boycott. That is the only way they will listen to us black people," the leaders said.

A spokesman for the board, Mr Sampie Steenkamp, confirmed the details of the meeting as described by the women. Their main complaint was that their houses were too small. They were told they must pay their rent and build on or buy their houses.

"We said we cannot lower their rents any further, because it is already heavily subsidised," he said.

## Police Issue Latest Unrest Situation Reports

### Early 22 Feb

*MB220713 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0709 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 22, SAPA — The following is the unrest report up to 7.30am from the Police Directorate of Public Relations in Pretoria:

"In Kagiso, West Rand, the police acted after a delivery vehicle had been stoned by blacks. One black male under 18 years was wounded and arrested.

"In Soweto, Johannesburg, three blacks petrol bombed a private lorry. Burn wounds were inflicted to one black male and two black females. There was no police action.

"In Langa, western province, blacks stoned a private vehicle which resulted in injuries to one black male.

"In Tembisa black township, Kempton Park, blacks petrol bombed a police vehicle. The police arrested 16 black males over 18.

"In Lamontville black township, in Port Natal, blacks stoned a private house. Two black males over 18 were seriously wounded by the mob. There were no arrests."

Ends report.

### Late 22 Feb

*MB230542 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1729 GMT 22 Feb 86*

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 22, SAPA — Following is the unrest report until 7pm tonight issued to SAPA by the police public relations division in Pretoria.

In Soshanguve, the corpse of a black policeman, Constable M.J. Lehutso, was found. He had been stoned, necklaced and set on fire. He was stationed at Soshanguve police station. No arrests have been made.

In Soweto, about 200 blacks stoned a delivery vehicle. Police used shotguns to disperse them. One man was injured and arrested.

### Early 23 Feb

*MB231122 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1120 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 23, SAPA — The following is the unrest report up to 7 am from the police directorate of public relations in Pretoria:

"In the black township of Nelspruit a group of about 500 blacks set fire to two restaurants, a doctors consulting rooms, bottle-store, butchery, offices of the Education Department, three delivery vehicles, and damaged houses of members of the South African police. The police had to use shotguns, rubber bullets and tearsmoke to disperse the mob. Three black men were arrested and one was slightly injured.

"An explosion in a telephone booth at the Meyerspark post office on Watermeyer Street in the Pretoria district caused severe damage to the post office building, a neighbouring pharmacy, greengrocer and butchery at 0015 hrs this morning.

"In the black township of Petrusville in the southwestern Cape blacks stoned a private house and the police arrested one black man."

### Late 23 Feb

*MB240530 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1720 GMT 23 Feb 86*

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 23, SAPA — Following is the SA Police 7 pm unrest situation report:

"In Atteridgeville (Pretoria) township a black female aged 54 was taken to hospital after she had been burnt by petrol which had been thrown over her by blacks. There was no arrest or any police action.

"In Brits black township blacks set fire to a shop. One black youth was arrested. In another incident in the same township about 200 blacks stoned an SAP vehicle. The police had to shoot with 9 mm pistols. One black man was wounded and arrested."

Ends report.

### Early 24 Feb

*MB240619 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0606 GMT 24 Feb 86*

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 24, SAPA — Here follows the South African Police unrest report up to 8am issued by the SAP's public relations division in Pretoria.

"The following incidents of unrest were reported last night:

"In Mamelodi, near Pretoria, a post office building was damaged by arsonists and a man arrested for placing barricades in a road.

"At Kwadabeza, near Pinetown, a large mob stoned an SAP vehicle and a private vehicle. A policeman was slightly injured.

The mob was dispersed with tearsmoke, shotgun and pistol fire. Three men were slightly wounded and arrested.

"At Bridgeton in the south-western Cape a policeman was slightly injured when the vehicle in which he was travelling was stoned.

"At Zwide, police vehicles and policemen's homes were stoned and petrol-bombed. On one occasion, two shots were fired at policemen guarding a policeman's home. Tearsmoke and shotgun rounds were fired to disperse these mobs. A youth was killed during one of the incidents.

"In the black residential area near Brits, a hotel was extensively damaged when it was petrol-bombed."

## Press Examines Current Issues, Problems

[Editorial Report] **Adverse Effects of Debt Accord**

Daan de Kock reports on page 2 of Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 21 February that "South Africa reluctantly agreed to the proposals to end the standstill on the country's foreign debt yesterday, but in fact had very few alternative options open, economists said last night." The economists believe "the agreement will place a heavy burden on the country and that the stimulation of consumer demand could be adversely affected."

**Speeches in Parliament**

In a series of reports on speeches in Parliament on page 4, *THE CITIZEN* notes that PFP MP Roger Burrows said in the House of Assembly that "separate education was a dead-end street leading to a 'brick wall of violent rejection.' " Burrows suggested "South Africa institute a system of schools for different language groups as well as bilingual schools and multi-cultural schools" and allow parents to decide where to send their children. Another report says that the minister of the budget in the House of Representatives, Andrew Julies, presented his budget to the house, which makes provision for spending 532 million rands, a 33 percent increase over last year. Julies said the budget "proved the Labour Party's continued commitment to obtaining the maximum benefits for the Coloured community." Another report notes that Jan van Zyl, a Conservative Party MP, told the House of Assembly that his party "could not support the House's Part Appropriations Bill unless the Government undertook to restore the sovereignity of the white Parliament." Van Zyl also said the government must take steps to combat "inflation, white unemployment and to ensure the safety of white farmers."

**CITIZEN on Botha-Slabbert Transcript**

Commenting on the release of the transcript of the 25 November meeting between former PFP leader Fredrik van Zyl Slabbert and President Botha in an editorial on page 6, *THE CITIZEN* says "the hullabaloo" that has been created over the release of the transcript "should be over the fact that Dr Slabbert, in the first instance, breached the confidentiality of the discussions." The president's reasons for recording the talk were justified and since Slabbert believed his talks with the president were being taped, "he can hardly be upset when this is confirmed." The espisode of the transcript shows that "it is Dr Slabbert, not the state president, who has lost credibility," *THE CITIZEN* concludes.

**Treurnicht Criticizes SABC**

"The leader of the Conservative Party, Dr Andries Treurnicht, last night accused the SA Broadcasting Corporation of deliberately paving the way for Chief Gatsha Buthelezi to become South Africa's first black president," the paper reports on page 8. Treunricht also said unbanning the ANC would be "the beginning of the end," and warned clergymen who are seeking to negotiate with the ANC that they were " 'playing with fire.' " "The whole trend of Government policy was towards integration," Treurnicht said and "unless the whites stood together now and booted out the Botha government, it would be the end of democracy and white self-determination."

**PFP By-Election Victory**

"The Transvaal leader of the Progressive Federal Party, Mr Douglas Gibson, said yesterday that the victory of PFP candidate, Mr Nick Muller, with an increased majority in Wednesday's Randburg Town Council by-election, was an endorsement of voters' confidence in the new PFP leader, Mr Colin Eglin," the paper reports on the same page. Muller received 58 votes more than the National Party candidate.

**Second-Tier Government Plan**

"A second tier of government with multiracial legislatures and an option to include national states may replace provincial councils this year," *THE STAR* reports on page 3. "Government sources say the new second-tier system will include whites, Indians, coloured people, and non-homeland blacks but is also likely to include what has become loosely known as the 'Natal option.' "

**Opposition to Medical Discrimination**

"The newly appointed minister of health and welfare in the House of Delegates, Mr Ismail Kathrada, says he will fight to eliminate racial discrimination in medical and health services," Kashvinga Jaga reports on page 8. Kathrada said he was opposed to the recent Transvaal Provincial Administration directive calling for the transfer of black and Indian patients from Coronation Hospital and added that a top priority was to establish health services in rural and urban areas where they were lacking.

**STAR on Debt Agreement**

Commenting on the agreement on the country's foreign debt repayments in an editorial in page 12, *THE STAR* says that Fritz Leutwiler's negotiations "have bought the country a little more time, though it would be foolish to imagine it is more than that. The large debts remain; the anxiety of creditor banks is still there; and the political situation at home remains unresolved and volatile." South Africa needs "an adequate flow of foreign capital" and this "will not be possible without political — as well as economic — reform."

**STAR on GM Offer**

In another editorial on the same page, *THE STAR* comments on General Motors offer of legal and financial support to black employees who violate Port Elizabeth's beach desegregation law, noting the move "won't harm the company's image in the United States, or among local blacks. It is well accepted in South Africa now that business has both a right and a duty to involve itself in politics." Reform could "begin to look a good deal more real if other companies followed its bold lead."

### Opposition to CBD Opening

In an article on reaction to the opening of free trading areas in Johannesburg's and Durban's central business districts (CBD's), Sue Dobson notes that Koos van Der Merwe, a Conservative Party MP, said " 'we are vehemently against this announcement. It will destroy the principle of separate development and blacks will swamp whites in their own areas and eventually take political control.' " Jaap Marais, the leader of the Reformed National Party "said it would lead to further racial integration and friction in business and residential areas."

### Mixed Reaction to Debt Agreement

Deputy finance editor Duncan Collings reports on page 14 that "the overriding reaction to the agreement reached yesterday between South Africa and its creditor banks is one of relief." Organized commerce and industry welcomed the agreement "insofar as it removes the enormous uncertainty under which they have been operating since last August," but caution that it will take a long time until South African borrowers "are welcomed back into the international capital markets." Bankers, foreign exchange dealers, and stock market brokers also welcomed the agreement, but warn "that the country is a very long way from coming out of the woods and that difficult times brought about by the new conditions of the agreement lie ahead."

### Slabbert on Transcript's Release

Peter Wallington reports on pages 1 and 2 of Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 21 February that former PFP leader Slabbert, commenting on the state president's release of a transcript of talks between the two and the refusal of National Intelligence Service (NIS) Chief Neil Barnard to release a transcript of his talks with Slabbert, said he found it " 'inexplicable that the government is prepared to make public a confidential discussion bugged without my knowledge, but is not prepared to disclose what I said to the head of NIS when I specifically asked him to record and transcribe my discussion and to make it available to the state president and whomsoever he wanted.' " Slabbert added that " 'I therefore have to assume there is a sinister motive in the manner in which the state president's office has tried to impugn my credibility.' "

### No Vote on Moutse

Barry Streek reports on page 4 that PFP chief whip Brian Bamford said the government had refused to allow a vote in the House of Assembly on its decision to incorporate Moutse into KwaNdebele. Bamford added that "the PFP intended pursuing the matter further, 'although it appears there are no further parliamentary avenues that we can use.' "

### Eglin To Question Botha

In another report on the same page, Streek says that acting PFP leader Colin Eglin is to question President Botha on his recording of a conversation with former PFP leader Slabbert. Eglin will ask Botha whether all his conversations are recorded and if participants are told of this fact beforehand.

### Increase in Strikers

"There was a sharp rise in the number of workers involved in strikes in South Africa last year — and the number of strikers was the highest in at least ten years," Barry Streek reports on page 4 of *BUSINESS DAY*. "Last year 212,660 workers of all races went on strike — compared with 181,942 in 1984." A total of 5,426,178 man hours were lost due to strikes and work stoppages.

### Suzman Protests Brits Removals

Streck reports on the same page that PFP MP Helen Suzman told the House of Assembly that the removal of 10,000 blacks from Brits should be stopped immediately. " 'One continues to be amazed at government's creating situations which can only lead to misery and further unrest,' " Suzman said.

### BUSINESS DAY Welcomes Debt Agreement

"The Leutwiler foreign debt deal is a good one not only for South Africa but also for the creditor banks," *BUSINESS DAY* says in an editorial on page 5. "Clearly its aim is to reduce the influence on politics on the financing of the South African economy, restore the primacy of financial inducements, rather than political bravado, to endeavours of the country's creditors, and enable those who wish to withdraw to do so unobtrusively." Debt negotiator Leutwiler "is cleverly twisting politics out of the scheme of things and is assuming that political reform here will give the process momentum in the years ahead. Essentially, he is giving State President Botha another chance to reassure the world capital markets that he is serious in his professed endevour to abolish apartheid."

### SOWETAN on Transport Fare Hikes

In a page 6 editorial on the 10 percent raise of government employees, the *SOWETAN* says: "The gut response to the motive behind the salary increases of public servants is that the Government is trying to 'buy' back confidence and votes. It is common knowledge that civil servants and other blue collar workers are the right-wing sector of the white constituency that is giving Mr P.W. Botha and his friends so much trouble." However, the 10 to 15 percent increase in rail and air fares "means that the majority of people, who pay taxes but are unrepresented, will feel the burden even more." "We know instinctively that coupled with the dismaying actions of the police, it only needs this type of economic hassle to increase the unrest."

### Tutu 'Caught in Crossfire'

In the "Focus" column on the same page, Sam Mabe writes that Bishop Desmond Tutu is "caught in a crossfire from the black left and the white right." Whites see him as "a radical priest," and he is an "embarrassment and troublemaker" to the government, while "among average black radicals, Bishop Tutu is regarded as a 'softie' whose moderate stance is retarding the liberation struggle." Bishop Tutu's condemnation of violence by blacks and whites could make him "a hero who may die because of his courage," Mabe says.

### BEELD on Learning Languages

Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans on 21 February says in an editorial on page 8 that "language is the most emotional communication medium a person possesses." For an Afrikaans-speaking person there are words that cannot portray the same feeling in other languages. The same applies to English, Zulu, etc. No wonder black school children, as a result of the foreign languages they have to learn, resort to acts of unrest out of frustration, according to Mrs C.M. Webb of the Soweto College of Education. But it should be made clear to them that South Africa is a bilingual country, and that a person who masters both the official languages will always have a job advantage.

### ILANGA on Slabbert Resignation

Durban *ILANGA* in Zulu on 13-15 February carries an editorial on page 4 saying that "Dr Frederick van Zyl Slabbert's resignation as leader of the opposition party, PFP, in the South African Parliament has carved an unprecedented path, which if followed by many more others would help straighten out many crooked issues in our government." "We see Dr Slabbert's unexpected exit from parliamentary politics as a pointer to the futility of present parliamentary practices." "We wonder how many more people are going to follow Dr Slabbert's example. Should they be a sizeable group, it would drive the Nationalist Party government up against an impregnable wall."

### ILANGA on Botha's Contradictions

In another editorial in English on page 4, the paper says that "The state president, Mr P.W. Botha, must surely be his own worst enemy. No sooner had he put in a masterful performance with his impressive opening speech in Parliament last week, than he went and threw it all down the drain — just like that." "Many blacks, we are sure, must have been ready to buy Mr Botha's reformist package", when Mr Botha came out in his true colors giving "one of his most senior cabinet ministers, Mr Pik Botha, a humiliating dressing down — all because the latter had spoken of the possibility that this country might one day be ruled by a black state president." "So, now we know he is not prepared to go all the way, even to the extent of accepting a black president." Mr Botha "has confirmed black fears and black suspicions about his motives. We cannot see that any thoughtful and self-respecting black leader would in the circumstances want to align himself with Mr Botha's proposed reforms," which "are clearly a sham, a farce, an attempt to fool us all into believing the emperor is fully and decently clothed when, in fact, he is stark naked." "Mr Botha will have to do better, much better, before he can hope to impress us or win our confidence with his declarations for a changed South Africa."

### CITY PRESS on Alexandra

Johannesburg *CITY PRESS* in English on 23 February [date as published] reports on page 1 that 27 people have been killed in Alexandra and the Alexandra Action Committee and other groups monitoring the situation say as many as 80 could have died. A reporter from the paper visited the health center in the townships and "found that over 70 people had been treated — the majority with serious bullet wounds." A doctor told the reporter that police had visited the center and asked about a particular person but information had been refused. "Police trucks moved in and out of the township with furniture and belongings belonging to members of the police force. One policeman told *CITY PRESS*: 'We are leaving this place... We see we have no future here.' "

### Witbank Stayaway

In a report on the Witbank stayaway on page 4, the paper said the police had arrested 856 unemployed people gathered at Ackerville Stadium last Sunday to discuss their employment problems, which had provoked the week-long stayaway. The mass arrests caused chaos in the courts and prison. Arrestees were fined between R60 and R10 and were discharged. In other incidents in the town, township residents told the paper that the raid by security forces last Friday they thought was "a direct result of the attack on the busload of white people," although police denied that any such incident had occurred.

### East Cape Ungovernable

The *CITY PRESS* reports on page 4 that "black local government in the eastern Cape has collapsed — the townships have become 'ungovernable' and there is a deficit of 12 million on rent and service charges." Witwatersrand University Lecturer Mark Swilling told the paper "the proposed regional services councils have all the ingredients of a disaster." He spent 2 weeks collecting data on street committees in the Eastern Cape and said that " 'the government has no support for the regional services councils and if it goes ahead with its plans, it will have to do this coercively and repeat all the mistakes it made when it went ahead with community councils, black local councils, administration and development boards and even white municipalities'."

### Alexandra Residents Frustrated

Also on its front page, *THE STAR* reports that Alexandra residents left the report back meeting with the high-powered church delegation " 'disgruntled, grumbling and disappointed.' " Residents who left before the end said: " 'it was totally unsatisfactory and had nothing to offer. The attitude of the authorities destabilises the situation in the townships completely. We are very disappointed about the failure of the government to immediately accede to our demands.' "

### Whites 'Oblivious of Realities'

In his "Undercurrent Affairs" column on the same page, Harvey Tyson notes the contrasts between the unreal world of Sun City, where all races mingle, and the poverty and apartheid nearby and says the contrasts in Johannesburg are even greater. "Despite the burnings and the shootings, the alleged murders and the riots in their midst, white Johannesburgers seem almost oblivious of the realities." No one he talked with had any knowledge of what was going on in Alexandra nor had he met any voter who had set foot in the township in the past year. Although this is typical of any city, "the contrast between the suburbs and the township, the deep ignorance of ratepayers and their apparent inhumanity form an unanswerable indictment of apartheid and the attitudes it has created." "Why are so few concerned?" "Undoubtedly the main reason is that the populace has been conditioned." This conditioning, which causes whites to ignore information in the press, is compounded by censorship. Again, the press were kept out of the township so false information concerning the deaths could not be verified. He says it is understandable that foreigners cannot understand the contrasts in a country where 143 of 170 English-speaking private primary and secondary schools in the province admitted "non-whites" last year, in which a majority of English-speaking urban people favored mixed schools, and where some Indians are locked up for ANC activities while apolitical Indians have to flee from ANC rioters.

### Reaction to Debt Agreement

Johannesburg *THE WEEKLY MAIL* in English in its 21-27 February edition carries a front page story on the agreement on South Africa's debt and cites one banker as saying that even the modest five percent payment this year is widely viewed as " 'onerous for South Africa.' " Other sources noted "the plan is far tougher than the original proposal by Pretoria asking for an extension of the debt freeze until 1990," which was rejected outright. The 5 percent was viewed as an " 'upfront' payment, mostly as a gesture of South Africa's good faith."

### Desegregate Schools

The Human Sciences Research Council Working Party on education met in Pretoria and recommended the " 'immediate desegregation of all education' " because " 'many of the problems in education result from segregated education and the enforced separation of language communities,' " the paper reports on page 70. Among the 200 people attending the meeting to discuss the problems blacks have when switching to English as a medium of instruction, " 'there was a very strong feeling that the poor quality of education, particularly in the area of language, cannot be divorced from the political situation in the country and the fact that most black students and teachers have no contact with mother tongue speakers of English.' "

### Slabbert Criticized

In his "In the House" column on page 8, Jean Le May discusses the talks between President Botha and former PFP leader Slabbert. He says his problem with the transcript of the talks is "I find it hard to believe that this was an opposition leader talking to the head of the government with anything other than the offer of close cooperation in mind." He said Slabebrt may have emphasized points of agreement in order to go on to other topics of negotiation but he cannot escape the view that Slabbert "didn't want to watch from the stalls or even from the wings, he wanted to be right there in the green room." He notes the paternalistic character of several of Slabbert's remarks and says he hopes for Slabbert's sake, the full transcript is not released.

### Charges Against SADF

In an article on page 9, *THE WEEKLY MAIL* reports that the ministers of law and order and of defense had promised that SADF members would not commit " 'unlawful acts' " in Krugersdorp after affidavits had been presented against SADF conduct there. An embargo has been placed on publishing these affidavits. A Rand Supreme Court judge said these affidavits contained allegations " 'of a particularly grave nature' " concerning the conduct of police and SADF members in the townships of Kagiso 1 and 2 Munsieville.

### Eglin on New PFP Strategy

On page 13, Jean Le May quotes in its entirety a statement by the new PFP leader Colin Eglin saying the party wants "to get away from the concept that what is happening inside Parliament and what is happening outside are separate." "The reality is now that the political arena has expanded right across the country and right across the racial divide. Politics is now being played out in a number of different sites right across the country." Parliament is important because it is the only place "where you can change or make laws" or call the government to account for its performance. However, the party has got to go to other sites where politics is important if it wants to be relevant. "We'll have to find ways and means of ensuring that there are more people out in the field investigating practical problems rather than letting the problems come to them."

### Tutu Defends Memorandum to Coca-Cola

Johannesburg *SUNDAY TIMES* in English on 23 February reports on page 1 of its extra section that Bishop Desmond Tutu has said a memorandum to the Coca-Cola company was "not aimed at stopping the company from setting up a trust fund for black education." Tutu said the memorandum from himself, Dr Allan Boesak and Professor Jakes Gerwell was in response to a Coca-Cola offer for the men to serve on the fund's board of trustees, and simply laid down the conditions under which they would be willing to serve.

### New Government Realism Noted

A "new mood of realism" in the cabinet was reflected in Minister of Law and Order Louis le Grange's address to the President's Council this week, reports Max de Preez on page 2. Le Grange acknolwedged the complexity of the causes of township violence and noted " 'it is doubtful whether the revolutionary climate in South Africa has decreased,' " a statement in "sharp contrast to earlier optimistic statements by President Botha that the revolutionary momentum was winding down." Du Preez criticizes Le Grange's explanation of what the government plans to do about the unrest, saying: "It revolves around efforts to create jobs, improving living conditions in the townships and employing more policemen — necessary steps but hardly an answer to the growing momentum of revolutionary violence."

### 'People's Education' Flourishing in Cape

Hilton Hamann reports on page 2 that a system of "liberation" or "people's" education is flourishing in black communities. "While white children attend school and prepare themselves for the future, some black schools are reportedly running an 'alternative education' system designed to politicise pupils and prepare them for the coming political struggle." "The youngsters, some of them pre-school children, are encouraged to write freedom songs and discuss issues such as police brutality and the presence of security forces in the townships. A spokesman for the Department of Education and Training, Mr Job Schoeman, confirmed the department was aware of the phrase 'People's Education'," and admitted that such education was a reality in parts of the eastern Cape.

### Businesses Nervous Over Alexandra Unrest

"Businessmen were barricading their premises bordering Alexandra township this week after damage estimated at over R1-million by mobs on the rampage," Emielia Jaroschek and Boeti Eshak report on page 7. "The figure already exceeds the damage in the area caused in riots during last year — then estimated at R750,000." More than 200 Indian families have fled their homes and business premises in Wynberg, a mixed area across the road from the township, and white business owners are worried about what will happen once the security forces move out.

### Effects of Township Violence Spread

"This week, residents of Johannesburg's northern suburbs, among the wealthiest communities on the globe, could hear on still nights the sounds of gunfire. The point, so easily lost in our hermetically sealed society, is simple: Civil violence touches everybody", the *SUNDAY TIMES* warns in an editorial on page 20. "Seven years ago the Rev Sam Buti [of Alexandra] was a township hero for defending his community against the vast callousness of Governemnt ideology. Today his home is under attack by young radicals, his life is in danger, his words drowned by the gunfire. On Wednesday Bishop Desmond Tutu was able to cool the anger of Alexandra. On Friday he was booed. Could he be Monday's Buti?"

### Right-Wing Resurgence Greatest Threat

"Anybody can see that pre-revolutionary symptoms abound in South Africa, but it is much more difficult to say whether we are actually heading for revolution", Ken Owen notes on page 20. Lenin "saw quite clearly from the start that the key to revolution is the army", and the "crucial difference between revolutionary Russia and South Africa is the SADF. It does not consist of peasants, but of elite conscripts whose loyalty is not yet in question." The main problem with many conscripts, which are "if anything, more devoted than the government itself to the status quo," is not to retain their loyalty, but to "restrain their capacity for violence." "In South Africa, a right-wing resurgence based on the army still seems a greater threat than revolution."

### PFP Radicalism Behind Slabbert Departure

It was the radical mindset of his own party and not his frustration over government's refusal to implement his policies, that drove Slabbert from the Parliament, says Otto Krause on page 21. It was the young, radical members of the PFP, who see a black takeover as inevitable, and "not Mr Botha — who painted Dr Slabbert into a corner." "The real PFP, not the one the radicals have hijacked, should now stand up."

### STAR Reports Burning Incident

"An aunt of a victim of police shooting was seriously burnt yesterday when a policeman allegedly threw her into a fire during her nephew's funeral in Atteridgeville, Pretoria," Johannesburg the *SUNDAY STAR* in English on 23 February reports on page 1. Caroline Sithole said police attacked the house where mourners had gathered without provocation and had beaten many people, and a white policeman pushed her into the cooking fire. A police spokesman said, " 'The burning of the woman can be a rumour.' "

### Council Split Over Group Areas

Members of the President's Council say the "government's persistent stand on suburban apartheid has destroyed consensus" in the council, which is dividing along largely racial lines over the issue, David Breier reports on page 1. The Group Areas Act "could be scrapped in the near future — but separate residential areas will stay. The most that can be hoped for is that the Government may turn a blind eye to areas in which mixing has already occurred, such as Hillbrow in Johannesburg and Woodstock in Cape Town." National Party members are taking their cue from recent government statements, and "now refuse to back down on separate suburbs." Colored and Indian members of the council were prepared to consider a compromise, which could have included "declaring new suburbs multiracial and could also have given local authorities the right to decide on mixed or gray areas." Colored, Indian, and PFP members of the committee examining the Group Areas Act will probably refuse to sign the majority report on the act or to be associated with it. The Nationalists might be prepared to give "a semblance of reform by changing the name of the Group Areas Act," or by following the Strydom Committee recommendations that the right of a race to occupy a site should be build into the title deeds rather than applied to the area as a whole. "Such a change might be aimed at world consumption but will make little impact locally."

### Slabbert's Position Damaged by Transcripts

"Dr Van Zyl Slabbert's role in negotiation politics has been damaged after publication of disparaging remarks he made to President P.W. Botha in private about the ANC and Chief Magosuthu Buthelezi, the leader of Inkatha," Breier reports on page 2. "A prominent ANC member, talking in his private capacity, said the ANC had not yet studied the transcript but, he said, it appeared the effect was that blacks could not trust white political leaders." Slabbert said he told the ANC in Lusaka: " 'If you are so in control of the situation, why do you not call a moratorium on violence for six weeks and say look, we will show you.' They know they could not do it." Slabbert also said the young blacks in the townships are more militant than anything he came across in Lusaka.

### Youths Warn of Official Assurances

Jon Qwelane reports on page 4 that a group of youths blocked Bishop Tutu's path as he left the Alexandra stadium following his address to residents on Friday, and demanded to know "where they were supposed to sleep because 'the police harass us and raid our homes every night'." Tutu stopped to talk to the youths, "who made it clear to the Bishop that whatever assurances the police and Government spokesmen gave him, they were not worth a tittle." One youth told him, " 'As soon as you leave here we will deal with the police in our own way because they are merciless.' "

### Black Support for Botha 'Laughable'

In the "Just Jon" column on page 11 Qwelane says President Botha is "grievously mistaken" when he says he has the support of more than 50 percent of blacks. "He does not have any support worth talking about." "Any suggestion of 13 million blacks supporting apartheid would be laughable if it did not glaringly protray the tragic make-believe world of National Party politicians."

## ZIMBABWE

### Mugabe Launches Movement To Politicize Children

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*1515 GMT 21 Feb 86*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] It is happy birthday today to Zimbabwe's Prime Minister Robert Mugabe. He has marked his 62d birthday by launching a nationwide movement to politicize Zimbabwe's children. The movement will involve children from between 5 and 14 and it is supposed to prepare them for life in a socialist society. From Harare, Michelle Faul reports.

[Faul] Mr Mugabe told the inaugural conference of the movement, which was attended by 180 children from all nine provinces, that it is a forum for the systematic upbringing of children in line with the socialist goals of the ruling ZANU-PF party. It is called the 21st February Movement in honor of his birthday. Mr Mugabe said it will introduce children between the ages of 5 and 14 to the ideals of the party and prepare them to take over and continue the revolution. We must start now to impress upon our children the advantages of such a collective society, Mr Mugabe said. Zimbabwe could not hope to construct a socialist society without preparing its children for leadership roles within the new system. The movement will grow into one of the strongest wings of the party. A ZANU-PF paper outlining the aims of the movement said it will instill in children from the earliest age a love for their nation, the party and socialist policies. The movement will also (?seek) education and health care for all children and it will work with the party's women's league to ensure that there is harmony between the movement and children's mothers. Mr Mugabe is co-patron of the movement with his wife Sally. They will be known to the children as Baba na Amai. That is Shona for father and mother.